



SOCCKET ACTION

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1st
It's Davidson
or me, says
Len McKendry



Alan Davidson

32 in the
1983 Cup

State League clubs will take part in a new, 32-team National Cup next year.

The eight soccer federations — Victoria, NSW, South Australia, Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania, Northern NSW and the ACT — will be invited to nominate a member club to join the 24 NSL clubs.

The NSL expects the States to nominate their best available teams from 1983 to take part in next year's Cup which will be held on a regional basis up to the semi-final stage. For four weeks before the league kick-off, clubs will play in the cup until the four semi-finalists are decided.

Meanwhile, the ASF's marketing director, Peter Sheehan, is expected back shortly from London, where he had talks with Patrick Nally, managing director of West Nally, about arranging international tours next year.

West Nally's agreement with the ASF gives it exclusive rights to NSL, National Cup and international matches. Sheehan will inform Patrick Nally about the new-look NSL.

South Melbourne Hellas coach Len McKendry says he will quit if Alan Davidson returns to the club.

"As long as I'm there, he'll never play for Hellas again," McKendry said this week.

He claimed that while Davidson was "legally right" in leaving for trials with Bayern Munich and Arsenal yesterday (Tuesday), it was "morally wrong" for him to go just before Hellas's National Cup semi-final against Heidelberg-Alexander.

Davidson tried to delay his trip but was unable to. His flights and accommodation in Munich had been booked seven weeks previously.

"I feel sorry that I can't stay for the semi-final, but it was impossible to change everything," Davidson said before leaving. "The already had one delay, caused by the series against England which meant the NSL had to be prolonged by a couple of weeks."

"I really wish Hellas the best of luck in the semi-final. I'm sure they'll win it and go on to take the Cup."

Because of his overseas trials, Davidson signed a contract tying him to Hellas only until the last league match of the season. The Hellas committee and McKendry have been aware of the situation all year.

If he is signed by Bayern Munich or Arsenal, he will emulate or even surpass the feats of Eddie Kracevic (ex-Croatia and Marconi) who's now with Dinamo Zagreb, and David Mitchell (ex-Adelaide Juventus and Sydney Hakoah) who's starring with Glasgow Rangers.

If McKendry sticks to the "it's him or me" threat, Hellas may lose one of Australia's greatest players even if he fails to get a contract overseas. That would be sad — LAURIE SCHWAB

The big date

The eight successful applicants for membership of the enlarged and regionalised NSL will be named in Sydney on November 5.

The draw for the 1984 competition will be announced on November 14.



2nd
Sydney City Hakoah, from left, back row: Ken Boden, Steve O'Connor, John Kosmina, Gerardo Gomez, Tony Pazzano, Murray Barnes. Front: Kevin Mullen, Alex Robertson, Jim Catt, Joe Watson, Willie Murray, Paul Kay. Picture by PETER BARTA.



3rd
Preston Makedonia, from left, back row: Zarko Odzakov, Isaac Farrell, Con Ospasini, David Jones, Peter Ollerton, Richard Wilson, George McMillan. Front: Zoran Illoski, Ljube Petrovski, George Campbell, Gordon Flavell, Claude Lucchesi. Picture by PETER BARTA.



4th
South Melbourne Hellas, from left, back row: Arthur Xanthopoulos, Alan Davidson, Bobby Russell, Steve Blair, Ken Murphy, Doug Brown. Front: Charlie Egan, John Yzendoorn, Steve Woodin, Carl Halford, Peter Leumonts, Oscar Crino.

Victoria to get the Cup

By LAURIE SCHWAB

— but Arok plans his own series

Frank Arok hopes Sydney Olympic and South Melbourne Hellas lose their National Cup semi-finals on Sunday.

Olympic meets Marconi at St George Stadium on Sunday, while Hellas meets Heidelberg-Alexander at Olympic Park.

"For the good of soccer, it would be best to have the two big giants — Olympic and Hellas — in the final, but from my own viewpoint, I'd like to see them losing," said Arok on Monday, after having guided St George-Budapest to the NSL title. "So far, fifth honor in the three years since he returned to the club.

Arok and St George want to run a spectacular four-day tournament with prize money of \$6000 for the winner, \$2000 for the runner-up and \$1000 for third place.

It would be played in Melbourne and Sydney, either midweek or on two successive weekends, starting probably on November 5.

The idea is, that to make the tournament financially viable, it would have to include Hellas and Olympic.

Heidelberg and Marconi wouldn't draw nearly as many people, so with them it probably wouldn't be worthwhile — although if we had Olympic, we probably could go ahead with Heidelberg instead of Hellas. At least we'd have one of the bad drawards then," Arok said.

St George and probably Preston Makedonia would join the two sides in the National Cup semi-final, with the other side in the National Cup final in Sydney on November 6 and in Melbourne on November 13.

"I will be talking this week with the clubs we would like to have in the tournament, and I'll be hoping for the right results in the semi-finals," Arok said.

"The tournament would be of tremendous benefit to the Soccerroos, because it would keep the top players matched up."

Whatever happens in the semi-finals, Victoria is well-placed to gain revenge for Makedonia's eclipse in the league championship race.

Both Hellas and Heidelberg look stronger than Marconi and Olympic, meaning there is a very strong chance that the Cup will come to Melbourne — the first honor of any kind to come Victoria's way since the NSL started in 1977.

Heidelberg is undefeated for eight weeks, since Jim Tansley took over as player-coach, and Hellas has lost only two of its past 17 games under Len McKendry.

Olympic had a good result against Makedonia last Sunday, but that was Olympic's first victory since having beaten Makedonia five weeks earlier.



Frank Arok

Marconi, unsettled by the departure of coach Doug Collins, lost 1-3 to West Adelaide Hellas last Sunday.

St George meanwhile, will have to negotiate new contracts with all its players except Robbie Slater and Mark Barton, whose present contracts carry over to next year.

The Saints received no bonus for winning the championship, whereas Makedonia had been offered \$1000 a man to win the title, and will receive \$750 each for having stayed in the top four.

"Our players would have paid to win the championship, rather than expect money themselves," Arok said.

It's been a memorable achievement by the Saints, who came from behind after trailing by 10 points at one stage.

They looked finished when they lost 0-4 to Marconi, but in the next 10 rounds, they won eight and drew two.

"We won the title in Brisbane and Melbourne," Arok said. "We won all our games in those two cities, except for the 1-1 draw with Makedonia."

Arok rejoined St George for the 1981 NSW State League season, after the club had been relegated from the NSL.

Under Arok, the Saints won the 1981 and 1982 NSW Ampol Cups, the 1981 NSW State League grand final, the 1982 NSL grand final and now the NSL championship.

They won promotion back to the NSL after finishing second to Croatia in 1981, and they lost the 1983 Ampol Cup final only on penalties.

It is their first championship since 1976, when they won the NSW State League title from APIA, Hakoah and Marconi.

Arok's last championship with St George was in 1972. He was back in Yugoslavia before returning for the 1981 season.

Warsaw star for Polonia

Polonia (Vic) has applied for immigration papers for a top-class Polish striker, Gregorzuk Lech, 28, from Polones Warsaw. He played previously with Polonia Warsaw and Legia Warsaw.
Polonia also boasts 1983 Rothmans Medallist Stefan Mile and brilliant full back Mirek Smolarek.

IN SYDNEY

National Cup semi final: Sydney Olympic v Marconi at St. George Stadium, Sunday 3pm.

IN MELBOURNE

Cups triple bill at Olympic Park, from 12.40 pm Sunday.

Armstrong Cup final: Ajax v Thomastown

National Cup semi-final: SM-Hellas v Heidelberg-Alexander

Dockerty Cup final: Croatia v Box Hill.

Likely teams and shirt numbers for the National Cup semi-finals:

SM-HELLAS

1. Peter LAUMETS	2. Bobby RUSSELL	3. Arthur XANTHOPOULOS	4. Steve BLAIR	13. John YZENDOORN
6. Carl HALFORD	8. Oscar CRINO	7. Ken MURPHY		
10. Doug BROWN	14. Charlie EGAN	9. Steve WOODDIN		

HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER

1. Jeff OLVER	2. Ian McKIE	5. Don MACLEOD	10. Charlie YANKOS	3. Jim TANSEY
7. Theo SELEMIDIS		8. Jim CAMPBELL	6. Mike VALENTINE	
19. Derek LEA		16. Gary COLE	9. Scott PATTERSON	

SYDNEY OLYMPIC

1. Gary MEIER	4. Mike COADY	5. Ricky HERBERT	6. Tony DAKOS	7. Gary PHILLIPS
8. Jim PATIKAS		10. Peter KATHOLOS	3. Graham JENNINGS	
11. Terry PATALIS		9. Marshall SOPER	12. Mark KOUSSAS	

MARCONI

1. Bruce JAMES	2. Jovan DJORDJEVIC	5. Tony HENDERSON	6. Steve CALDERAN	3. Vic BOZANIC
11. Ian HUNTER		4. Tommy McCULLOCH	8. Tommy SERMANI	7. Atti CARBONE
9. Rod BROWN		10. Steve WINN		

Armstrong triumph for Ajax?

Green Gully Ajax is favorite to win the 1983 Armstrong Cup when it clashes with Metro Second Division outfit Thomastown at Olympic Park on Sunday in the first match of a triple header.

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CUPS BONANZA IN**McCulloch, Winn, Katholos, Soper the key players**

By TOMMY SERMANI,
Marconi asst. coach

Olympic is a dangerous side coming forward, but I believe they're down a bit and lacking confidence. If we respond properly, we'll make the final.

It would be a big thrill for me, as I'm in my first season with Marconi, since joining from the U.K. where I played for Albion Rovers, Blackpool, Torquay and Dunfermline.

Tony Henderson was appointed stand-in coach last week, with me as his assistant, after Doug Collins left.

Doug had the option of staying until midweek this season, but it would have been an impossible situation for him, seeing as the committee already had decided that Les Scheinfug should take over for 1984.

Doug's greatest contribution to the club was the way he helped develop our young players — Tommy McCulloch, Rod Brown, Joe Rizzotto, Rene Licata, Steve Calderan, Atti Carbone etc.

The young players matured under him, and the team spirit under reached a peak.

In the past few weeks, everything really has come together for us and Doug leaves with the respect of every player at Marconi.

But having said that, there's no way our spirit will be affected by his departure. The professional approach he instilled in us demands that we go out there and give it everything we've got.

We'll beat Olympic, believe me.

As I said, Jim Patikas, Peter Katholos and Marshall Soper made Olympic a very dangerous attacking team, but we've got the ability to contain them.

Not that we're going to change our usual playing pattern to counter them. We never change our game, no matter who we play against. If we go out and play to our full ability, Olympic will be defending against us, rather than vice-versa.

As for team selection, it's too early to say.

Steve Calderan and Ricky Budini both are vying for the stopper's position. It was Calderan who played against

Northcote last week and

they were both excellent.

I believe, Heidelberg will

win the other semi-final, and that would suit Marconi fine, for we've beaten Heidelberg twice this year.

Having missed out on the championship, Hellas will be down a bit this week, and I believe that will act against them in the semi-final.

Heidelberg's on a high, and I reckon they'll spring a surprise.

So far as I'm concerned,

it's Marconi and Heidelberg for the final.

And one of the four can turn the match single-handedly.

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MELBOURNE AND SYDNEY

Campbell and Selemidis in peak form

By SAM GOULOPOULOS,
Heidelberg president



Sam Goulopoulos
Australian squad for the Merlion Cup proves my point.

It's been a bit of a mixed bag for us this year. The players were upset after their showing in the Ampol Cup and the supporters were upset too. People thought that things were drastically wrong. There even was a petition drummed up, calling for the committee to resign, but time heals all wounds. Everyone is really happy with the way things have gone since Jimmy Tansey took over as coach.

Kenny Morton was easy to get on with but he didn't win us games. That's why he had his services terminated. I think some of the positional moves Kenny made were open to question. Scotty Patterson never will be a central striker.

We all knew that Scotty's best at playing on the left, coming from deep positions. That's what he does well, and I'll go as far as to say that within 12 months, he could become the top player in Australia in that role.

I think that when we parted company with Kenny, he knew that he wasn't getting through to the players. He was having problems motivating them.

The committee came up with a few names to replace Kenny as coach but I didn't want to bring in an outsider, someone who didn't know the players. Jimmy Tansey and Gary Cole were well known and most importantly, very well respected. They've got the players' spirits high. Our players always have had the ability. I never doubted that and the honor of having three of our players selected in the

We're going out there to entertain, not to make tools of the soccer public. We'll do our best and we'll give people value for money too. To be honest, I'm very, very confident that we'll beat Hel-

las.

And I reckon that there will be a record crowd at this match against Hellas. My tip is that more than 17,000 people will be at the game. Our supporters are happy with the way things have been going and they've been assisting us in every way possible. They're right behind Jimmy Tansey and the committee.

I'm looking forward to being president again next year. It's going to be a new ball game in 1984 and that excites me. I'm really hoping that the new league set-up sparks more interest in the game. I think that it will be at first, because we'll have more local derbies and therefore bigger crowds. I think we'll be big things happening next year, especially at Heidelberg.

We're going to beat Hellas on Sunday, you know. They're going to start hot favorites, and that's good for us. The psychological pressure will be on them. Sure, they're a good side. I'm not denying that, but our team effort and the spirit among our players will be too hot for them on the day. We're the more united team. We're the more united team, by name, united by nature.



Heidelberg striker Derek Lee — goals galore, but he's going back home to Scotland.

VSF HONORS KNOX

Victorian club Knox City will be officially presented with the 1983 Metropolitan League Cup by VSF secretary George Wallace, at the Knox City shopping centre this Friday at 7.15pm.

Knox won the cup by defeating Nunawading City 2-1 in the final recently, at Croydon Park, and Knox now is making a determined bid for inclusion in the 1984 State League.



Hellas goal machine Doug Brown powers past Kevin Mullen of Sydney Hakoah

Cup victory to round off a great season

By LEO ANEZAKIS,
Hellas president

Both teams are in form, Hellas has had good results for about 15 weeks now, while Heidelberg has done well in the past eight weeks. This will be a very fast, exciting game and the results will be close but we'll win because we have the better team.

Our supporters are really looking forward to this match. It's important to the players, to our coach Len McKendry, to me and my committee, that we do well in this Cup. Since we went into the National League back in 1977, we've only won one honor — the 1982 Ampol Cup. If we can beat Heidelberg then I'm very confident that we'll go well in the final.

We went into the National League expecting instant success which never materialised. The team we've built this year is based upon players bought on the local market. They have already established themselves in this country and that's important. In the past, we'd bring out players from overseas and virtually demand that they perform. It doesn't work that way. Everything takes time.

We've got 12 good players. We need maybe another one or two for next year. That's all.

We've done well financially this year. We've paid off many bills. Creditors don't wait nowadays, you know. But I'm very happy with the way things have gone for me, as president for the first time, and my new committee. From the start of the year everyone was enthusiastic. We bought good players and we all were happy and excited about our prospects.

I was a bit disappointed though at the way we played in the Ampol Cup. I started to think: well, maybe we've got too many new players and it will take some time before they combine well.

We won a few league games by big margins and lost a couple by big margins too. I started to worry. Maybe we're not using the right system, I thought. Maybe we're not concentrating on defence the way we should be.

When we lost five goals to Newcastle, I watched the defence closely. Our players always seemed to be right outside the inside of Newcastle's forwards, rather than being goal-side. Tommy Docherty, John Margaritis and even Mandy Poullakakis used to say you start by worrying about the defence and once you're happy you start to worry about making goals. I thought that Raleasic was concentrating too much on attack.

I started to worry about finishing on the bottom of



Leo Anezakis

the league. That would have been a disaster for the club and for my committee. We have gone from getting 15,000 spectators at one game to getting just 1,500 at another game. This was my first year as president. I didn't want to fail.

That's why I got McKendry as coach. He's very dedicated. He loves the game and he works very hard and he wants to achieve. I like that in a man.

McKendry is a gentleman too. But he can be tough on the players if he has to be. They know that and they respect his knowledge of the game. If they are having problems on the field, they know that they can go to him and he will be able to tell them and to show them what they're doing wrong.

Some people aren't happy with me and my committee. I've heard all about the rumours. About some people saying that they are going to go for the presidency and all that sort of rubbish. First people have to get a petition from about 60 percent of the members. Then they can hold a meeting and try to change the constitution. Then they have to arrange another meeting to hold elections. I've been voted in as president for a two year term remember. Anyway, I don't think there will be any big chances. This is just talk by a few people who want to make trouble. For what reason, I wouldn't know.

This has been a tremendous year for the club. We had worries at the start but we've finished the season in great style. And I'm confident that we can do well in the National Cup.



Hellas midfield wizard Oscar Crino.

Don't get too cocky, Croatia

By Craig MacKenzie

Melbourne Croatia goes into Sunday's Dockerty Cup final against Box Hill as the shortest priced favorite for years and should justify its low odds by accounting for its plucky but outclassed opponent.

Box Hill's hurdle seems insurmountable. How can the Hillmen cope with the brilliance of Croatia's midfield quartet of Josip Biskic, Jozo Antolovic, Jeff Faulkner and Steve Gojevic?

But let's pause to pay respect to Box Hill. It's about to finish its first season back in State League since 1972 and what a fine season this club has had. No club in State League can boast a development program as effective as Box Hill's. Without the financial resources of Croatia, the Croydon Park outfit has nurtured young talent and now is recognised as one of the best breeding grounds in the state.

Croatia will be well advised not to take Box Hill lightly. If Croatia shows the same discipline and commitment it has shown over the past few weeks, it will win. If it gets cocky, it will struggle.

Biskic is at the peak of his form. Croatian fans love his cheeky skills and he has the confidence to play with the ball whenever he chooses. However, a word of warning. In the second half of last week's semi-final against



Croatia striker David Brogan — one of the main threats to Box Hill in the Dockerty Cup final on Sunday.

Ajax, Biskic became a bit too arrogant and was dispossessed. He was holding possession too long using his body to fend off opponents, and was robbed a couple of times. Ajax isn't the only team in State League which hits and hits hard. Box Hill can be tough too. Especially midfielder Richard Miranda.

Miranda surely will be in the starting line-up on Sunday. He was on the bench last weekend and again from coming on and scoring the winner against Ringwood Wilhelmina, his presence in midfield lifted the Hillmen. He has a powerful shot, an asset which could be put to good use here from set-piece situations.

Box Hill has been using corner-kick situations well over the past few weeks. Central defenders Lawler and Brownlie have been going forward with Lawler positioning himself at the near post and Brownlie at the back post, giving the corner taker two options — either play the ball to the near post, looking for a Lawler head-on or try to pick out big Brownlie at the back post.

Cup finals have a tradition of upset and it would be the shock of the season if Box Hill beat Croatia. However, Croatia has the better players and is every bit as well organised. Croatia should win.

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CROATIA ON PENALTIES!

Steve Watson match-winner

By EMANUEL GRIMA

CROATIA 0 MELITA EAGLES 0 AET, Croatia won 4-3 on penalties. NSW State League Grand Final at the Sydney Sports Ground last Sunday.

CROATIA: Watson, Alex Kovacic, Tomasic, Woods, Sterrey, (Basic 71), Vidic, Rezo, Savor, Radman (Arnold 59'), Marian Kovacic, Hensman.

MELITA EAGLES: McPherson, Williams (Gavin 79'), Cross, McGinn, McCoy, Griffith, Farnsworth, McAusland, Jamieson, Duarte, McKe (Allan 59').

In a repeat performance of the previous week's Grand Final, Melita Eagles and Croatia struggled to yet another tie with neither side able to break the deadlock during the normal period and extra time. A penalty show-

down decided the issue in Croatia's favor.

Sure, chances came both ways, with Melita Eagles missing most of the time when keepers were intent on letting nothing past, particularly Steve Watson, who surely is destined to take the number one spot in the Australian national team.

He was outstanding, saving Croatia from certain defeat in the dying seconds of normal time then chipping in to save from Don Allan and Dennis Duarte in the climax to this drama.

With the penalty count at 3-3, Alex Kovacic took the last penalty for Croatia to make it



Croatia — winner of the NSW State League grand final

4-3. Then came Duarte with his kick, the last for Melita. Watson saved and that was the end of the ball game.

Croatia could have had an early lead but after some good work by Sterrey, the ball fell to Drago Rezo who skied it over the bar from close range.

Then a series of chances came. Melita's way. McKie was the first offender when a pass by Micky Cross went towards the nippy striker but only Watson to beat. He managed

McKie headed over the bar from close range.

Billy Griffith tested Watson in the 37th minute but found Watson in superb form, tipping the ball around the post for a corner. With two minutes left in this half, Duarte played a neat one-two with Wayne Farnsworth but his final shot skimmed the outside of the post. Then, with seconds remaining, it was Farnsworth inside the box with only Watson to beat. He managed

to fumble and stumble allowing the ball to trickle towards Duarte who did likewise and Sterrey came in with a last second tackle to clear.

Only one minute after the restart, it was Duarte again with a chance. Jameson to Farnsworth a quick pass to Duarte and a shot followed, but inches outside the far post.

Seven minutes into the second half it was Jameson who missed a sitter, but Watson to pull off an incredible save and send the game into extra time.

Watson repeated the save in

the second stanza of the extra time, again from Allan to have the two sides locked at 0-0 and having to take penalty kicks to decide the issue.

Kovacic made it 1-0 for Croatia. Steve Watson saved from Allan yet again, Brett Woods hit the woodwork, then Gavin made it 1-1.

Wally Savor made it 2-1 for Farnsworth equalised, then Tom Basic gave Croatia the lead which was cancelled by Covacic. At last the last penalty takers were Kovacic and Duarte.

Kovacic made it 4-3 and Duarte had his shot saved by Watson to give Croatia the championship.

And while the champagne flowed in the dressing rooms adjacent to the Northern parts of the stands, Melita's dressing rooms were quiet. Melita coach Raul Blanco was a sorry, lonely figure.

— with ALEX VESIC

POLONIA FOR NSL?

Polonia, one of the Victorian applicants for a place in the enlarged NSL, will play at new Polish Community Centre, for which \$200,000 already has been raised.

A committee representing the Polish community of Melbourne, is trying to obtain a site next to the Highpoint West shopping centre at Maribyrnong.

A possible alternative site is in Balaarat Road, Deer Park.

Many social and sports groups will be accommodated at the Polish Community Centre when it is built. Polonia Soccer Club will be among them.

Polonia believes it has a strong case for NSL membership, because like Croatia, Juventus, Ajax and George Cross, it offers the southern section of the NSL a new spectator market.

And because there is no other Polish club in the NSL overall, Polonia believes it could draw upon the Polish people of Adelaide and Sydney when playing away.

Stefan Mile, who won the 1982 Victorian Rothmans Medal two weeks ago, boosted his trophy collection by picking up two at Polonia's presentation night last Friday.

He was voted Polonia's best and fairest player, and also received a special award donated by club stalwart Bolek Mlewski.

Other awards:
Best clubman: Joe Bonnici;
Most improved: Ricky Lipiarski.

Goal of the Year: Tad Kryszinski (V. Hellas in 8-0 victory).

Senior team top scorer: Alex Marshall;

Best and fairest runner-up (seniors): Ricky Lipiarski.

Reserves best and fairest: Darko Kolaric.

Special thank-you award: Kathy Lytewka, for running the canteen which contributed about \$10,000 to the club's coffers.

The club also made a presentation to Franek and Veronika Vlazdickova who were celebrating their 28th wedding anniversary.

— LAURIE SCHWAB



Wollongong's Phil O'Connor (right) accepting his award as NSW Player of the Year from David Jack, president of the NSW branch of ASPA.



Blacktown's Robert Wheatley, voted NSW under-21 player of the year, is presented with his trophy from Les Scheinflug.

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MEN

THE NEW CALEDONIA SOUTH PACIFIC CUP — 18 to 25 OCTOBER, 1984.

This is the third year of this annual tournament to which teams from Australia, New Zealand and New Caledonia are invited. Package costs from Sydney \$560, Brisbane \$590. Direct flights from Melbourne to Noumea are expected to be operating in 1984 with costs only slightly higher than Sydney.

THE GARUDA CUP — 11 to 14 NOVEMBER, 1984.

Held for the first time in 1983 with 1 team from W.A., 1 from N.T. and 1 from Victoria against the 3 best district teams of Bali — Indonesia. Now an annual event with package costs from Sydney and Melbourne \$850, Darwin \$660 and Perth \$660. This package is for 2 weeks and includes 2 meals daily.

THE FLI CHALLENGE CUP — 12 to 19 OCTOBER, 1984.

This tournament is on the drawing board and will go ahead subject to sufficient interest. Further details on request.

THE NEW CALEDONIA SOUTH PACIFIC CUP — 11 to 18 OCTOBER, 1984.

The second year of the tournament. Teams are invited from Australia, New Zealand and New Caledonia. Suitable for Youth League teams, association rep. teams or any other premiership club or other sides. Package costs from Sydney \$560, Brisbane \$590. Direct flights from Melbourne to Noumea are expected to be operating by 1984 with costs only slightly higher than Sydney.

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O'Connor, Brogan, Wade to 'Cross?

Sunshine-George Cross, tipped to be the fourth Victorian State League club in the 1984 NSL, is rumored to be chasing the signatures of top players in Victoria and NSW.

The Maltese-backed club, reportedly is keen to sign Phil O'Connor, the Boral Bricks — "Soccer Action" Player of the Year, and Roy Cotton (both from Wollongong), David Brogan (Melbourne Croatia), John Dowie (Doverton), and

Croydon's Ian Dobson and Paul Wade.

That's an ambitious plan, if the rumors are correct, but since joining with Sunshine City late last year we hear the coffers at Sunshine-George's clubroom have been filling and that the club now is set to hit the transfer market in a big way.

If 'Cross' is chasing Brogan, then it may have to contend with local rival Juventus, which also is believed to be very interested in the classy Croatia striker.

Morwell Falcons striker Bobby McGuinness may be seen in Frankston Pines colors next season. We understand that progressive Pines are after a top flight striker to play alongside Kevin Wall

in the club's first season in State League, next year.

Morwell still is negotiating with midfielder Jim MacLean and after much conjecture about the talented player's future, he may stay in the Latrobe Valley after all.

And where will John Margaritis coach in 1984? Will he stay in Melbourne with Juventus? The word is that Margaritis could be coaching Sydney Olympic. If he gets that job ahead of present Olympic coach, Manfred Schaefer, Margaritis would be one of the highest paid coaches in Australian club soccer.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

OVERSEAS

GREECE

AEK 2 Aris 1 Panathinaikos 0 Olympiakos 1. Panathinaikos 2 Larisa 1 Iraklis 2 Yannina 0, Doxa 0 PAOK 0 Panathinaikos 0 Apollon Athens 1 Apollon Kalamatas 0 OFI 0 Iraklis 5 Egaleo 1.

Panathinaikos 8 6 2 0 16 6 14

Iraklis 8 6 1 1 14 2 13 13

PAOK 7 4 2 0 16 3 11

Zelios 6 5 4 3 10 15 15

Aris 6 5 2 0 16 10 10

je Upljubica 1 Celik Zenica 0, Vojvodina Novi Sad 2 Sarajevo 0.

Ritika 12 8 1 3 19 13 17

Pristini 12 8 0 4 16 18 16

Hadjuk 12 5 5 2 1 4 4 15

Piraeus 12 5 5 2 15 10 15

Zelios 12 5 4 3 10 15 15

Lach Porec 12 5 4 3 10 15 15

Lech Poznan 12 5 4 3 10 15 15

Lechia Gdansk 12 5 4 3 10 15 15

Wisla Krakow 12 5 4 3 10 15 15

Radom 12 5 4 3 10 15 15

Wisla Lublin 12 5 4 3 10 15 15

Wisla Szczecin 12 5 4 3 10 15 15

Legia Warsaw 12 5 4 3 10 15 15

Atromitos 12 5 4 3 10 15 15

AEK 12 5 4 3 10 15 15

OFI 12 5 4 3 10 15 15

PAOK 12 5 4

**BORAL
BRICKS**

Doug Brown of South Melbourne Hellas wins the Boral Bricks \$1000 top scorer award after notching two against Brisbane Lions at Richlands at Sunday.

Brown finishes the season with a total of 16.

Marshall Soper (Olympic) and John Kosmina (Koakoo) both made valiant efforts to overtake Brown in the last round, scoring one and two goals respectively.

They finish in second place, with 15 goals each.

Phil O'Connor (Wollongong) won the Boral Bricks \$1500 best player award last week, with a match to go.

Charlie Yankos (Heidelberg) was too far behind to catch him at that time, but he nevertheless put on a best-on-ground performance last Sunday, to finish only two votes behind O'Connor.

This week's votes:
2 HEIDELBERG-ALEXAN-

DOUG BROWN GOAL KING

DER 2 (Salemidis, Lea) NEWCASTLE KB UNITED 1 (Lowe) at Olympic Village. Crowd about 2500. Votes by Laurie Schwan.

6 Yankos (H), 5 Lea (h), 4 Patterson (H), 3 Tansey (H), 2 Salemidis (H), 1 Tredinnick (N).

FOOTSCRAY J.U.S.T. 1 (Lujic) APIA-LEICHHARDT 1 (Morsello) at Schnitter Reserve. Crowd 1500. Votes by Peter Desaria:

6 Paton (JUST), 5 Kacic (JUST), 4 McDowell (JUST), 3 P. Tredinnick (APIA), 2 Morsello (APIA), 1 O'Donnell (JUST).

Brisbane Lions 2 (Daunt, J. Stewart) SOUTH

MELBOURNE HELLAS 2 (D. Brown 2) at Richlands. Crowd about 600. Votes by Ricky Rosso:

6 Niven (BL), 5 Crino (SM), 4 Davidson (SM), 3 J. Stewart (BL), 2 Vincent (BL), 1 Russell (SM).

CANBERRA ARROWS 2 (Gibson, MacLaren) SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH 5 (Kosmina 2, Boden pen., Watson, Kay) at Bruce Stadium. Crowd about 2500. Votes by Peter Windsor:

6 Watson (SC), 5 Farina (C), 4 Gibson (C), Kosmina (SC), Robertson (SC), 1 MacLean (C).

MARCONI-FAIRFIELD 1 (R. Brown) WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS 3 (Atsalas, 1

Konstandopoulos, T. Brown) at Marconi Stadium. Crowd about 1640. Votes by Knut Werner:

6 McCulloch (M), 5 Honeyman (WA), 4 Sprout (WA), 3 R. Brown (Marc), 2 Henderson (M), 1 Konstandopoulos (WA).

ST. GEORGE BUDAPEST 4 (Marion, Hughes own goal, Wilkinson 2) BRISBANE CITY 0 at St. George Stadium. Crowd 2200. Votes by Peter Scott:

6 Wishart (BC), 5 Marion (St G), 4 Ratcliffe (St G) 3. Liddle (BC), 2 Perry (BC), 1 Greedy (SG) G.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1 (Soper) PRESTON MAKEDONIA 4 (0) at Albert Park. Crowd 4500. Votes by Alex Vesic:

6 Dakos (SO), 5 Jennings (SO), 4 Soper (SO), 3 Opasins (Mak), 2 Patikas (SO), 1 Wilson (Mak).

Top vote-getters:
85 O'Connor (W).
83 Yankos (H).
68 Ratcliffe (St G).
67 Davidson (SM), Odzakov (Mak).

kohus (AC), Bertogna (APIA), 39 Vlietstra (W), Robertson (SC), Perry (BC).
38 Halford (SM), Marton (St G), Niven (BL), Tokesi (BC), Lucchesi (Mak).
37 Murphy (SM), Katholos (SO).
36 McDowell (JUST), Senkalski (N), Hamilton (BC).
35 Gibson (C), McCulloch (M), Melita (AC), Flounders (AC), Liddell (BC).
Top goalscorers:
16 D. Brown (SM).
15 Kosmina (SC), Soper (SO).
12 O'Connor, Cotton (W), Bradley (APIA).
11 Egan (SM), Lea (H), Paton (JUST).
10 Lucchesi (Mak), R. Brown (M), Marton (St G), Wright (L), Lowe (N), Mullen (AC).
9 Slater (St G), J. Campbell (H), Mountford (N), Morsello (BC).
8 Bryant (ZC), J. Campbell (H), Mountford (N), Morsello (APIA), Ollerton (Mak).

Doug Brown

**BORAL
BRICKS**

We can help you build it.

Sydney club may sink under \$500,000 debt

National League standings

FINAL LADDER

Last week's standings in brackets.

	HOME	AWAY	W	D	L	F	A	Gls	Pts	
1. (2) St George Budapest	8	6	1	2	5	11	7	4	42	27
2. (3) Sydney City Hakoah	10	4	0	2	7	6	5	5	6	21
3. (1) Preston Makedonia	11	2	2	3	13	13	4	5	6	15
4. (4) South Melbourne Hellas	8	3	4	2	2	18	7	4	4	22
5. (5) Newcastle KB United	7	4	4	20	9	7	3	5	25	17
6. (6) Heidelberg Alexander	9	2	4	25	15	2	8	5	14	23
7. (9) Sydney Olympic	7	3	6	23	19	5	2	7	14	17
8. (7) APIA-Leichhardt	9	3	3	28	12	2	3	10	15	24
9. (8) Marconi-Fairfield	6	5	4	25	21	3	6	6	18	20
10. (10) Canberra Arrows	8	3	4	29	19	3	2	10	18	34
11. (11) Adelaide City Juventus	7	3	6	21	17	3	3	8	16	21
12. (12) Footscray J.U.S.T.	6	5	4	17	20	3	4	8	18	22
13. (14) West Adelaide Hellas	5	6	4	16	17	2	6	7	9	20
14. (13) Brisbane City	4	5	6	21	25	4	4	7	12	25
15. (15) Wollongong	1	11	3	19	20	3	4	8	22	33
16. (16) Brisbane Lions	5	3	6	24	23	1	5	10	12	38

A Sydney club is reportedly in debt to the tune of \$350,000 to \$500,000, most of it in the form of bank overdrafts, guaranteed by committed members.

Brace yourself for a huge end-of-season explosion which could sweep them out of the NSL, following the collapse of the Sydney Swans and two NSW Rugby League clubs.

The funny part is that in the majority of cases the good wives know nothing about their husband's little hobby and likely financial loss. Oh, thou blessed ignorance ...

They're racing

Alex Pongrass, president of St George, has branched out into a new sport. (Yes, yes, he is still the president of the Saints even if you hardly hear about him; Frank Arok is ONLY the manager, coach, publicist, salesman, marketeer and assitant groundsman ...)

Alex now has four racehorses, all said to be excellent thoroughbreds, one of them has been winning races in Sydney and Melbourne recently.

Feeling fit. No, not me; that's the name of the horse. By the way, Alex never bets



By ANDREW DETTRE

on his nags; he prefers sure things.

Lunchbreak

Talking of a high official. (Really, who's talking here of anything? I'm just saying it to introduce another random topic).

The story goes that he's allowed only 15 minutes for lunch.

If he took longer, he'd need a complete re-training.

Saint in exile

Can you imagine the Pope not going even near the Sistine Chapel for six months?

Well, that's what has happened to Andrew Lederer, once the soccer factotum of Sydney City Hakoah.

Since he fell out with the club leadership over the vexed question of continuing support for soccer in view of the enormous apathy by the membership, Andrew hasn't been to the swank Hakoah Club for months. Six months, he says.

Occasionally he attends their matches, as he still has

blue-and-white blood in his veins — but he is now on the outer of the club's inner sanctum.

"I'll be happy to remain manager of the Socceroos," he says with an unconvincing shrug.

The betting is that sooner or later he will make his peace with the club — and take over soccer again.

Arok best bet

Talking of betting: who'll be the part-time coach of the Socceroos?

(Despite some recent publicity to the contrary, the job will become part-time after December.)

Naturally, Les Scheinflug is at top candidate — even though he's certain to be attached to a club soon.

A high ASF official is strongly supporting John Watkiss who has been with Sutherland for years in the NSW State League.

Len McKendry and Eddie Thomson also have their sup-

porters and legitimate claims.

But my tip is Frank Arok from St George. Remember this in December or January.

A KB welcome

A small group of Newcastle fans, the hard-core, give out-of-town visitors a cheerful welcome at their matches.

As soon as the game starts, they begin their chant: "Go back, to Sydney ..."

Well, I always do. So do the visiting teams.

However, this doesn't detract from the excellent hospitality of the Newcastle club officials before and after the games.

They usually invite visiting players and officials for a drink and a bite at the nearby Adamstown Club.

Newcastle may have no pretensions for the big-time but ever since the stewardship of Paul Trisley — now sadly out of the game — they have been among the leaders in organisation and match staging.

The name game

I do hope this name business will not get worse next year.

Take the case of Preston or Adelaide City.

When the match report reaches AAP's head office in Sydney, the editor in charge promptly rewrites them into Rams and Giants: that's how it often appears in the dailies.

Then on Thursday I pick up more "Soccer Action" and read about Makedonia and Juventus.

In Brazil they have nicknames for players; here we have "market" names for clubs.

Some of our NSL clubs don't have enough supporters for one name, let alone three. In fact, some have more names than spectators.

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Holland Park vies for Olympic Park

Victorian club Holland Park is prepared to pay over \$6,000 to hire Olympic Park's No. 2 ground for home games next year.

"We'd be very happy to have Holland Park using our No. 2 ground," said Gordon Holmes, assistant director of Olympic Park's board of management and ground manager.

But right now Holmes and his board are waiting on a final decision from the ASF on the re-organisation of the National League for next year. At

Palinkas to stay?

Joe Palinkas will discuss his future with Brisbane City officials when he goes on Fawker's end-of-season trip to Surfer's Paradise tomorrow.

Palinkas joined Fawker on loan from Brisbane City early this year. His transfer fee had been set at \$12,500 but Fawker paid only \$2500 for the loan.

He will try to have the fee reduced and then transfer to Fawker permanently.

Palinkas joined Brisbane City from Footscray J.U.S.T. for \$17,500. Previously he played for St George Budapest and Melbourne Hungaria.

NSL team of the week

In brackets: No. off appearances in team of week.

WISHART (6)
(Bris. City)

DAKOS (1)
(Syd. Olympic)

PATON (3)
(Foots JUST)

WATSON (7)
(SC-Hakoah)

YANKOS (8)
(Heid. Alexander)

CRINO (6)
(SM-Hellas)

LEA (4)
(Heid. Alex)

MARTON (4)
(St.G. Budapest)

NIVEN (2)
(Bris. Lions)

MCCULLOCH (5)
(Marcam)

LEA (4)
(St.G. Budapest)

MARTON (4)
(St.G. Budapest)

Frank Arok's finest hour

**St. George 4
Brisb. City 0**

Venue: St. George stadium.

Scorers: Marton 52nd, Hughes own goal 66th, Wilkinson 79th and 87th.

Referee: Tim Davies 7.

Crowd: 2200

ST. GEORGE BUDAPEST:

Greedy 8; Skeen 8, M. O'Shea 7,

Ratcliffe 8, R. O'Shea 6;

Stone 6, J. O'Shea 7, Barton 6;

Slater 6, Wilkinson 7,

Marton 8.

BRISBANE CITY: Wishart 8;

Caird 6, Perry 8, Tokes 42nd min., Liddell 8, Bill Wilkinson 5; Bow 5, Fabrizio 6, Hughes 5, Bromfield 6;

Glockner 7, Cairney 6.

"It was a victory of the heart, and only Frank could have instilled it in our players," was the succinct summing up of St. George Budapest club president Alex Pangrass, during the joy-filled

minutes in the aftermath of the championship-clinching victory over Brisbane City.

And Arok made no bones about the fact that he considered the 1983 NSL title his greatest coaching achievement in Australia.

"Don't forget," he pointed out, "we did it with just 10 senior players and two goalkeepers."

"We stuck with that combination throughout, changing only when forced to do so by injury or suspension."

"St. George emerged champions against all expectations, because of its stable team, the excellent atmosphere in the dressing room and the very professional attitude to work displayed by all my players."

Arok reminisced about his side's "dream run" to the championship finale, which netted eight wins and two draws in the last 10 matches! Arok also was generous in his praise for Brisbane City.



Peter Scott

"I was absolutely confident of winning, even though nerves and strong wind against us in the first half posed some problems."

"But all honor to City for giving us a hard struggle and trying all the way."

In fact the Queenslanders played like men possessed for all of a match which meant nothing to them in competitive terms.

Operating with only two men up front, Glockner and Cairney, the rest of the team concentrated completely on spoiling methods and marking

the Saints' desperately goal hungry strikers and midfielders out of the match.

Thus, the first 45 minutes were a litany of frustration for the Hungarian club and its fans, with only a close call by Marton early in the piece and a grand save by Wishart two minutes from the break raising their hopes somewhat.

The feeling was, however, that if only the Saints could break the deadlock, the proverbial floodgates would open — and they did!

When Slater was tripped inside the area, Dez Marton was fully expected to capitalise on the chance.

A lackluster shot and the quick reflexes of the brilliant Kim Wishart prevented this, but the Hungarian maestro did manage to bag the rebound.

The Brisbanites were still desperately eager to knock the Saints off their perch, compounding idle speculation in the stands about the likelihood of a

juicy win bonus being offered from one of Budapest's rivals.

City, for whatever reason, had to come out of its shell, inevitably opening up gaps in the rearguard.

In spite of this the next two goals were "silly" ones, with first a header by Marton changing direction on the hapless Hughes' foot for an own goal, and then Tokes miskicking in front of goal, providing Paul Wilkinson with an easy opportunity to stab the ball into the net.

When Wilkinson notched up the fourth goal three minutes from the end it was the icing on the championship cake.

And then it was all over, with the Saints worthy champions for 1983.

As for Frank Arok, eh could start thinking about a task harder than winning the NSL championship — ways and means of keeping a team from the eager challenges of its rivals next year!



The great Dez Marton.

TANSEY 83%, AROK 61%, McKENDRY 72%

**Heidelberg 2
Newcastle 1**

Scorers: 0-1 Lowe 8th; 1-1 Solomidis 25th; 2-1 Lea 56th.

Venue: Olympic Village.

Crowd: about 2500.

Referee: Dennis Voutsinas 9.

Cautions: Tansey (H), Patterson (H).

HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER: Oliver 8 — Spenos 7, Angelis 7, Yankos 9, Tansey 8 — Solomidis 8, Campbell 7, Valentine 8 — Lea 8, Cole 6, Patterson 8. Coach: Jim Tansey.

NEWCASTLE KB UNITED: Goshling 7 — Meier 6, Burke 7, Watson 7, H. Tredinnick 8 — Lee 5 (Cowburn 70th), Mason 7, Senkowski 7, Jones 8 — Mountford 6, Lowe 7. Coach: Ken Kaiser.

Frank Arok's St George may have won the championship but Heidelberg's Jim Tansey finished the season with a better record than any other coach.

Heidelberg beat Newcastle 2-1 at the Olympic Village, leaving the team undefeated in the eight weeks since Tansey took over as player-coach from Ken Morton.

Its recent good form gives Heidelberg an excellent chance of winning the Cup semi-final against South Mel-

bourne Hellas at Olympic Park next Sunday.

Heidelberg's results under Tansey have been:

v. Wellington (away) 0-0;

v. Brisbane City (home) 2-1, scorers Campbell, Lea.

v. Newcastle (away) 0-4;

v. Adelaide Juventus (away) 4-2, scorers Macleod, Valentine, Campbell, Lea;

v. Macedonia (home) 3-1, scorers Lea 2, Cole.

v. APIA (away) 3-2, scorers Yankos, Valentine, Cole.

v. Sydney Olympic (home) 4-1, scorers Cole pen., Patterson, Campbell, Lea.

v. Newcastle (home) 2-1, scorers Solomidis, Lea.

This represents an 83.3 per cent success rate for Tansey, while Arok had a 61 per cent success rate.

Under Tansey, Heidelberg picked up 53.5 per cent of its total points — 23 out of 43 — in only eight games.

The next successful coach on statistics alone was Len McKendry who registered a 72.5 per cent success rate in winning 11, drawing 4 and losing 2 of the 17 games under his command.

But, of course the only real yardstick for any coach is whether or not he wins the championship. That's where Arok comes up trumps.

Heidelberg came from behind again. Newcastle and won the match with one of the best goals seen this season.

scored by Derek Lea who bobbed down low to get his head to the ball and sent it flying past goalkeeper Clint Gosling.

Newcastle had taken the lead early as the eighth minute. Joe Senkowski put the ball between an opponent's leg, ran around him, passed it to David Lowe and Lowe scored with a shot that whistled in just under the crossbar.

A few minutes earlier however, Heidelberg's Mike Valentine hit the bottom of the goal post.

Heidelberg equalised in the 25th minute when Lea cut the ball square into the goal area where Theo Selemidis slid in to score.

Heidelberg had at least two more chances to score.

First Gosling saved a powerful low shot by Scott Patterson and later Gary Cole missed from three metres, with goalkeeper Gosling stranded on position.

In between Heidelberg did manage the winning goal — that spectacular effort by Lea — in the 56th minute.

Newcastle, however, was disappointing. I have come to expect more from this side, which usually plays with a lot more flair.

This time, the Northerners were predictable in their approach and pedestrian in midfield, although Joe Senkowski did show flashes of his skill, and David Jones worked very hard on the wing.

West Adelaide Hellas came from behind again. Newcastle and won the match with one of the best goals seen this season.

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Another Melbourne title chance down the drain

**Olympic 1
Makedonia 0**

Ground: Lambert Park.
Crowd: 4,500 (approx)

Goal: Soper 19.

Yellow cards: Jones, Todorovski, Flavel, Lucchesi (M).

Kalantzis (BL).

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meier

7, Jennings 7, Candy 7, Dakar

8, Jennings 7, Candy 7, Dakar

8, Kalantzi 8, Kalantzi 6,

Phillips 6, Patikas 8, Katholos

7, Soper 8 (Zervas 70), Patikas

5.

PRESTON MAKEDONIA: Wilson

7, Opasinski 8, Petrovski 6, Illokski 6 (Farrell 58' -

6), Todorovski 7, Flavel 5,

Lucchesi 6, McMullan 6, Odzakov 6, Olerton 7.

Preston Makedonia had its

last chance to win the first

ever title for Melbourne and

Victoria in the dust bowl of

Lambert Park, but its players

never got to grips with the

bumpy pitch and were not

only defeated but outclassed

by the home side.

It was a narrow, but satisfying win for Olympic which must go into the cup semi against Marconi this week as an even-money favorite.

Marshal Soper came close



Alex Vescic

rebounded off the keeper's foot for a corner.

A header by Kalantzis in the 84th brought a superb save from Wilson with Katholos missing a simple opportunity only a minute later.

And whilst Olympic showed the style of a champion Macedonia never got into first gear let alone overdrive.

Player-coach Peter Olerton was a lonely figure up front.

Zarko Odzakov, Preston's brilliant schemer, was shut out by Mark Kousas, while Claude Lucchesi had his shade of grey to show and once very little was seen of skilful Lucchesi. As for the rest of the Makedonia players, it was difficult to see anyone but Con Opasinski worthy of mention. Opasinski was too good for young Patikas and was also dangerous going forward.

This ends yet another challenge by Melbourne to take the title. One wonders whether Makedonia really was the side to do it, for it appeared to me that only a few of its players had the stuff champions are made of.

Zoran Illokski, Ljube Petrovski and George Todorovski had mediocre games with Gordon Flavel completely out of the match. With George McMullan groping for space and Odzakov and Lucchesi blocked out, it was difficult for Makedonia to create chances.

In 90 minutes of football only once did its come close. With minutes remaining Lucchesi lunged forward to a cross only to see his shot go past the post.

Derby

Derby County who were saved from going to the wall less than two years ago are again flying the distress signal. However near the bottom of the Second Division they have listed several first team players for sale and in fact say they will have to consider offers for any of the side including top star John Robertson, the former Nottingham Forest winger who is still a first choice for Scotland. General manager Peter Taylor reckons it will be a tragedy if they have to sell Robbo whom Manchester United and West Brom are interested in.



Peter Desira

game, he was full of running right to the end.

The best move however was the switch of Jamie Paton — supposedly carrying an injury — to a midfield role.

Paton harried and chased, playing a supporting role to the attack and was unlucky with a header in J.U.S.T.'s only real first-half scoring chance.

APIA hit the lead within five minutes of the start when a cross from the left was controlled by Arno Berktopna and the centre back fed the ball for Tony Morsello who found the room and the time to blast the ball home from inside the box.

The Sydney side had the better of exchanges for the remainder of the half and should have added to the score in the 39th minute when Sharne intercepted a pass from Brian O'Donnell and won the ball on the left side with Tony Morsello, only to see the chance frittered away when John Bradley failed to connect with a low centre across the goalmouth.

It was different story after the break however and J.U.S.T. dictated terms, pinning APIA in its own half for long periods.

Berktopna started the slide, heading Zdravko Lujic's corner against his own crossbar.

The equaliser came in the 67th minute through a free-kick from the left by Brian O'Donnell which grazed off the head of Lujic on its way into the net.

With 22 goals, now is JUST's all-time top scorer in the NSL.

Only a minute later Ian Purdie — half-time substitute for Paul Simic — missed the simplest chance of the match when a Lujic cross fell nicely for him right in front of goal, but with only the keeper to beat he failed to connect with the ball.

Purdie sent a long-range effort narrowly wide and a Joe Carroll own goal kick set up Purdie for a clever flick over the keeper which also missed the target narrowly.

Two more crosses by Lujic caused added havoc in the APIA goalmouth and from the second, Carroll managed to shoot past the keeper only to be denied by a clearance off the line by full back Mark Brown.

Karic did an excellent job on Sharne and while Stojcevski — not used to midfield roles nad lacking match practice — had a less effective

An aerial duel in Brisbane on Sunday between South Melbourne Hellas defender Alan Davidson (left) and Brisbane Lions' Danny Wright.



Oscar Crino of South Melbourne Hellas (left) jumps out of the way as Lions' Alan Hunter barges through in possession of the ball. Pictures by CARLOS PICASSO.



An aerial duel in Brisbane on Sunday between South Melbourne Hellas defender Alan Davidson (left) and Brisbane Lions' Danny Wright.

Jamie Paton stars in midfield role

**Foots JUST 1
APIA 1**



Jamie Paton

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Penalties, sending-offs and bad refereeing

**Canberra 2
Syd City 5**

Scorers: Boden pen, Kosmina 2, Watson, Jones (SC), Gibson, MacLaren (C).

Venue: Bruce Stadium.

Crowd: 2500.

CANBERRA: Hummel 7, Byrne 6 (sent off 42nd), Ambrusino 7, Redmond 7, Murray 7, Gibson 8, Stone 7, Young 7, Farina 8, MacLaren 8, Perziano 7.

SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH: Pezzana 7, Gomez 7, Robertson 8, O'Connor (sent off 25th), Cent 8, Watson 8, Key 8, Borges 7 (lunch, 53rd), Boden 7, Kosmina 8, Murray 8.

Referee: Glyn Davies.

Cautions: Redmond, Kosmina, Robertson.

Red cards: Byrne and O'Connor.

Two players were sent off and three penalties were awarded by Canberra referee, Glyn Davies, and even five goals couldn't give Sydney Hakoah the 1983 premiership.

It was a game ruined by abysmal refereeing and an almost continual downpour.

Yet everything seemed set for a great game. It was the best-promoted game of the year, the Governor-General, Sir Ninian Stephen, kicked off and the crowd of 2500 was one of Canberra's best of the season.

Within minutes it was obvious Hakoah, normally such a cultured side, was psuedo when the tackling was hard and niggling.

But everyone was stunned by Hakoah's penalty after just 12 minutes.

It came, apparently, from



Peter Windsor

handling offence and in superb style Ken Boden sent Canberra goalkeeper Chris Hummel the wrong way to make it 1-0.

Sydney Hakoah 1-0 up and supremely confident, played like a premiership-winning team but some of that confidence knocked out of them in the 25th minute when Steve O'Connor was given his marching orders.

Within two minutes Hakoah was awarded their second penalty when Murray was upended in the area. Like Gibson, Kenny Boden missed the golden opportunity.

His shot hit the post, but after the rebound the ball was kept in and within 60 seconds a high cross was headed home by Kosmina to make it 1-1.

In the 68th minute Joe Watson made it 4-1 after great lead up work by Jimmy Cant and Paul Kay completed Hakoah's scoring in the 76th minute.

Full marks to Canberra for their courage to fight back, with Don MacLaren scoring a superb goal in the 79th minute and Ian Stone hitting the crossbar with a head just minutes from time.

A game of sensations, if one hadn't seen it, one would believe it.

An incredible end to an incredible season.

Canberra certainly hit back quickly as just six minutes in the second half Ian Gibson headed Farina's cross past Hakoah goalkeeper, Tony Pezzano.

Coach Eddie Thomson brought on Lynch for Borges and just nine minutes into the second half a disastrously misdirected clearance saw Hakoah snap up the chance.

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE top four series grand final at St George Stadium: Newcastle 3 (Brands 2 Caban) Sydney City 1 (Fletcher).

McKendry wants two new players for '84

**Bris. Lions 2
SM-Hellas 2**

Scorers: BL: Daunt 22nd, J. Stewart 24th; Hellas: Brown 65th and 69th.

Venue: Richlands Stadium.

Crowd: about 600.

Caution: Niven, Daunt (BL).

Referee: Jim Reeves 8.

LIONS: Boden 8, McClurg 8

(Ambrusino 72nd), Hunter 7,

Vasquez 7, Niven 9, R. Stewart 7, J. Stewart 8, Vincent 8,

Hogg 7, Daunt 7, Wright 7.

HELLAS: Laumets 7, Russell 8, Xanthopoulos 7 (Bujevic 80th), Ysendoorn 7, Davidson 8, Halford 7, Crino 9, Murphy 7, Egan 7, Brown 7, Woodin 6.

There were no long faces in the Hellas dressing room after they missed out on what proved an impossible dream of winning the championship.

And although they had not played well, the 2-2 draw with Lions had kept intact their magnificent record of only one defeat in the final 16 games.

Hells coach Len McKendry

will begin team-building and has his sights set on an experienced striker and mid-fielder.

"This is a young team that really came together only this season. Teams like St George and Sydney City have been together a long time.

"We need a couple of experienced players to give us a bit of depth and then we won't rely on other results to win championships. I am looking forward to next year," McKendry said.

But if Hellas already is close to the best in the league, then Lions could be too.

They matched it admirably and in fact outplayed Hellas in the first 45 minutes.

The Lions' aggressive challenges, quick passing and big hearts threw the Hellas side, which was never allowed to settle in the opening minutes.

With four players in the midfield and Russell Stewart pushing forward into attack, Lions had too much enthusiasm for Hellas' trio of Crino, Halford and Murphy — who didn't want to know about the game until after halftime.

Two goals in two minutes — a volley from Calvin Daunt

and a great shot from John Stewart both after excellent

passing, put Lions in a commanding position and smashed any hopes Hellas had of toppling the league.

It should have been a lead to ensure victory for Lions, and



Ricky Rosso

an escape from the wooden spoon. But it was not to be.

McKendry restored confidence in his players at half-time by convincing them Lions' brilliant form could not continue.

"If they played like they did in the first half all season they would have been where we are now," he said afterwards.

Lions made the mistake of allowing Hellas to come at them after half time and that gave the likes of Crino and Murphy room to run. That can prove fatal for anyone.

The inevitable happened 20 minutes into the half when the ever-dangerous Doug Brown lost his master, Alan Hunter, to finish off a quickly-taken freekick.

Four minutes later, Brown netted his second by finishing off a move which began with Crino powering his way through the middle of the defence but being denied a goal by a blocked shot. Egan picked up the rebound and whipped it to Brown, who made no mistake from close range.

Lions striker Calvin Daunt got the final real chance of the match two minutes later when he outpaced Xanthopoulos, who with Russell, was playing at only half fitness, and saw his angled shot hit the upright and rebound into Laumets' arms.

Aramovic

Raddy Aramovic, the Yugoslav keeper of Notts County, recently moved to Coventry City.

Goalie's goal

Jim Brown, the Chesterfield goalie who once had a representative game for Scotland, recently scored direct from a drop kick which flew the whole length of the field and bounded over Stockport's keeper Mick Salmon into the net. It was the second time in his career Brown had done this. Two years ago he became the first goalkeeper in American history to score with a clearance kick when he then played for Washington Diplomats.

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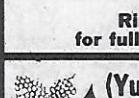
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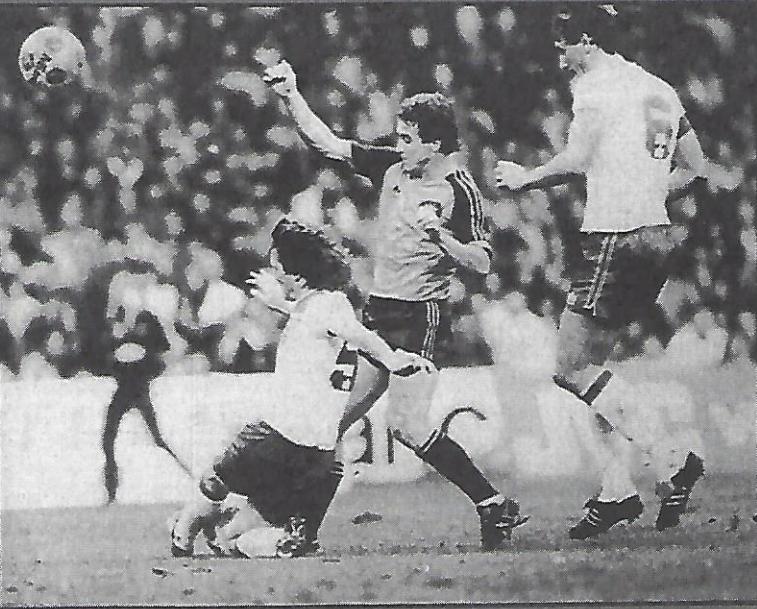
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Phil O'Connor starred against England despite opposition from Russell Osman (left) and Terry Butcher (right). Picture by LES SHORROCK



Joe Watson



Mark Jankovics



Ken Murphy

Al
dot



Jim Cant in action for Sydney Hakoah



David Ratcliffe (right) confronts Vlatko Basic of J.U.S.T.



Steve Watson



Peter Tredinnick

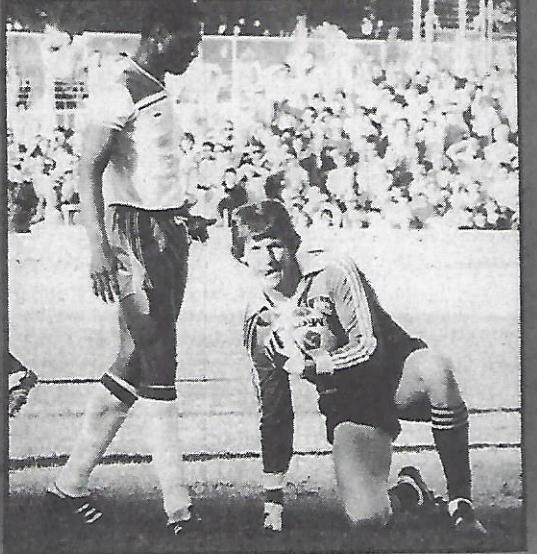


Peter Katholos

Assistant coach Raul Blanco



Jim Patikas



As a goalkeeper, Terry Greedy (right) is true to his name

Scheinflug names 22-man squad for Merlion Cup

By LAURIE SCHWAB

National coach Les Scheinflug launched Australia's defence of the Merlion Cup by naming a 22-man squad, strong in the vital three ingredients — skill, experience and toughness.

Although Australia faces formidable opposition in Singapore from China, Saudi Arabia and the old foe, South Korea, Scheinflug is well-placed to strengthen his reputation as a shrewd, highly competent national supreme.

Although reports are that he faces competition from a number of other ambitious men whose eyes are on the top job, Scheinflug's record hardly can be faulted.

After taking over from Rudi Gutendorf, he completed Australia's 1981 World Cup commitments without defeat, won the Merlion Cup last December, and took the young Socceroos to the finals of the World Youth Championships in Mexico.

Any criticism he had to bear was over the Socceroos' two losses to New Zealand early this year at a time when his players were not yet ready.

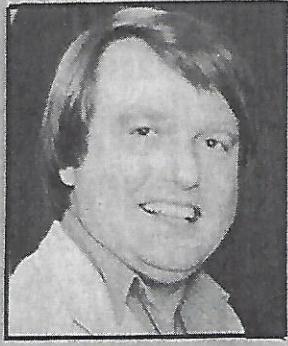
When the World Cup committee meets next Saturday to discuss the national coaching position for 1984 and beyond, its members would be well advised to remember Scheinflug's good work to date.

The national coach will operate on a part-time basis from next season — and that's why Scheinflug has accepted the Marconi coaching job for 1984.

In the Merlion Cup, which runs from December 3 to 16 in Singapore, Australia is likely to be in the same group as China, Brunei, and Indonesia.

The other group would consist of South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Singapore and Malaysia.

The top two from each group will advance to the semi-finals.



Les Scheinflug

Scheinflug rates China as Australia's strongest opponent, with Saudi Arabia and South Korea as the other main threats.

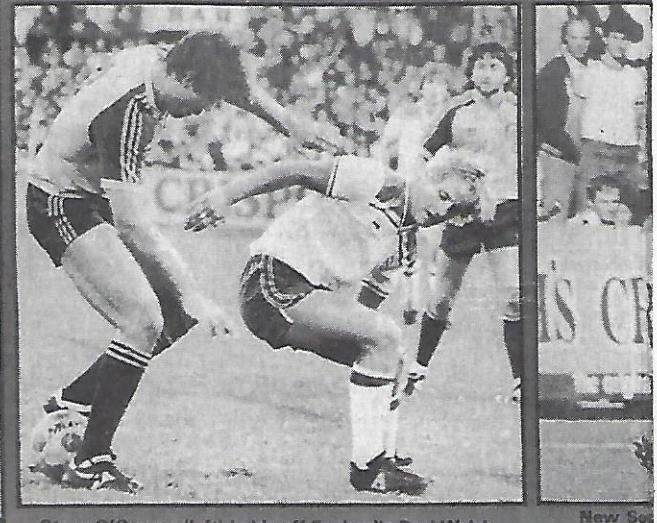
On their way to Singapore, the Socceroos will play warm-up games in Indonesia on November 17 and 25.

Players not involved in the National Cup will train from November 2, first twice a week, and then three times a week. Those with Cup commitments will have a short break, the entire squad enters camp on November 20, and then leaves for Asia on November 24.

Raul Blanco of Melita Eagles again will be Scheinflug's assistant, and Andrew Lassiter of Sydney Hakoah fame will be team manager.

Graham Jennings has shown dedication above and beyond the call of duty. Due to be married on December 3, he has brought his wedding forward, and will postpone his honeymoon until he returns from Singapore.

Here is a run-down of Scheinflug's national squad, with Scheinflug's own comments about every player:



Steve O'Connor (left) holds off England's Paul Walsh

New So
Picture



Robertson (right) clears for Sydney Hakoah, under threat from Mark Claude Luchesi (left)

Socceroos top-notch Ferlion Cup

GOALKEEPERS

ERRY GREEDY (St. George BSC): "Great form for St. George, and had three exceptional games against land this year." Capped three times.

TEVE WATSON (Sydney Croatia): "The most consistent goalkeeper in the NSW State League."

DEFENDERS

AUL CARTER (APIA): "The most promising young full back in the NSL, a come in as the replacement for David Davidson, who'll be overseas for a with Arsenal and Bayern Munich. I considered Howard Tredinnick of Wests, but he'll be touring the U.S. in his club." First national team selection.

TEVE HOGG (Brisbane Lions): "Signed for Australia before, under Rudiendorf, and has done well in the NSL year, either as full back or mid-fielder." 11 national team appearances, 3 full caps; 9 youth team appearances.

RAHAM JENNINGS (Sydney Olympic): "Very fast, can play as either full back or winger. I liked him against England." 3 full caps; 10 youth team appearances.

IM CANT (Sydney C. Hakoah): "Very experienced competitor, very 3 full caps.

HARLIE YANKOS (Heidelberg-Altona): "One of the most underrated players in Australia. Has a brilliant future." 3 full caps.

LEX ROBERTSON (Sydney C. Hakoah): "Consistent. Has played extremely well for two years." First Selection.

DAVID RATCLIFFE (St. George): "The backbone of St. George." 6 caps.

TEVE O'CONNOR (Sydney C. Hakoah): "Very aggressive centre back, in the air and a great marker." 7 appearances, incl. 4 full caps.

DE WATSON (Sydney C. Hakoah): "The most skilful player in Australia at moment." 5 app., incl. 4 full caps.

JIM PATIKAS (Sydney Olympic): "One of the stars of the youth team in Mexico. I would have picked David Love and Tommy McCulloch as well but they'll be trialling with Southampton in England." 2 app., incl. 1 full cap; 30 youth team app., and four youth goals.

TONY HENDERSON (Marconi): "His best season ever. He's well and truly back after two years in the doldrums." 38 app., incl. 24 full caps; 5 goals.

JIM CAMPBELL (Heidelberg Alexander): "Deserves his chance. Has come good again and I've had good reports about him from my Melbourne advisers." 3 app., incl. 2 full caps.

PETER KATHOLOS (Sydney Olympic): "Been down lately but I know what he can do. He has so much natural ability; all he needs is confidence." 12 full caps, 2 goals.

KEN MURPHY (SM-Hellas): "A very hard-working midfielder who did well against England." 2 full caps.

PHIL O'CONNOR (Wollongong): "Most consistent player in the country." 22 app., incl. 18 caps; 4 goals.

GARY COLE (Heidelberg-Alexander): "I've checked with my people in Melbourne and they all say he's coming good after his injury. I've also spoken to Cole himself and he says he has no pain." 33 app., incl. 18 caps; 2 goals.

MARK JANIKOVICS (Marconi): "One of our longest-serving national squad members who, unfortunately, never has had enough consecutive games to show us exactly how much he can do." 30 app., incl. 14 caps; 2 goals.

JOHN KOSMINA (Sydney Hakoah): "Captain of the team and proven goalscorer, which speaks for itself." 50 app., incl. 34 caps; 18 goals.

MARSHALL SOPER (Sydney Olympic): "One of the up and coming strikers." 2 caps.

PETER TREDINNICK (APIA): "Best season ever, very consistent." 1 app.; 10 youth team games, 5 youth goals.

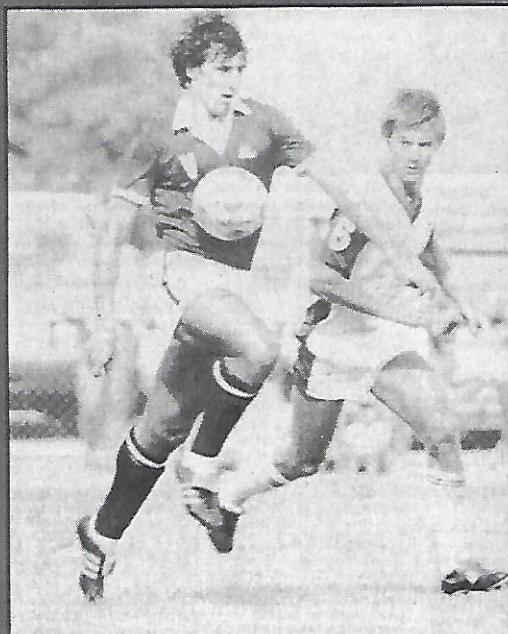
Scheinflug surprised by leaving out Steve Blair (SM-Hellas) after saying earlier he would recall him.



Tony Henderson



Jim Campbell's back! Here he is (left) against Bobby Russell of Hellas



Socceroos in opposition - Charlie Yankos (left) and Steve Hogg (right) in a Victoria v Queensland clash



Gary Cole



Australian captain John Kosmina (right) exchanges pennants with England's skipper Joe Corrigan



Graham Jennings



Socceroo Marshall Soper (third from right, in white) scores for Olympic against Wollongong. Picture by PETER BARTA



Paul Carter (left) surges past Chris Manou of West Adelaide Hellas. MARK HOBBS

ST. ALBANS DINAMO



St. Albans Dinamo, Metro Second Champion for 1983. Back row: Vlado Dezic (team manager), Zvonko Jurisa, Vinko Pavlovic, John Bruno, Ted Rachwalski, Rade Nobilo, Edy Brezak, Zvonko Mecanovic, Zelko Maric, Ken Hutchinson (massuer). Front row: Zdenko Brkljacic, Bill Vojtek (coach), Ned Batinovic, Danny Dezic, Danny Laco, Ivica Istuk. Missing: Russell Matevac.

Miss Dinamo for 1984, that's Ivanka

Miss Dinamo for 1984 is Ivanka Jurić (pictured, left), a tireless worker for the club. Her hobbies include a variety of sports and folk dancing. Ivanka will represent Dinamo soon in Geelong to select Australia's Miss Croatia. The club wishes her every success.



Juniors claim 4 titles

Dinamo has over 150 juniors playing in its seven junior teams and this year, four teams won league championships — the under-9's, under-10's, under-12 A's, and under-12 B's.

One of the outstanding juniors at the club is Oliver Pondejek (above right), who plays in the under-9 team. Oliver scored 10 goals in league games this season.

Another top junior prospect is young Ante Beranic (bottom, right). He scored 12 league goals this season as a central defender!

The under-9 and under-11 teams will take part in a tournament in Sydney shortly.



St. Albans Dinamo, born in 1981 out of amalgamation between HNK Dinamo of the Industrial League and St. Albans of the Victorian Metro League, is set to win a place in the revamped State League next year.

And what a feat that would be, coming as it would, the 30th anniversary of St. Albans soccer club. There can be little doubt that should mighty Melbourne Croatia gain NSW entry next season, the VSF and Victorian soccer would greatly benefit from having another Croatian-sponsored club in the State League and Dinamo is making a bold bid to be that club.

St. Albans never has been in State League.

St. Albans was born in 1953 and played friendly games until it was officially registered in the Fourth Division Reserves in 1954. Founder members were Vince and Joe Jakob, Mio Milenovic, Ante Anautovic, Anton Feist, Domina Sapulovic, Dave Day and a few other young fellows who wanted to play soccer. The first president was Eric Alford, who later became Mayor of Keilor.

Lale Klaas, Mike Vasjuta, Mike Jasili, E. Gericke, Fritz Schwab, P. Simonis, D. Gavilan, F. Feist, and J. Goellner were among other pioneers at St. Albans.

In 1965 came amalgamation with Olympia whose best players, Eddy and Boggie Kupris, Kaz Klain, Ziggie Nowak and others helped make the St. Albans-Olympia team a force in the Second Division. Extra strength was added by the signing of Rolf Behrith from Lions and the return of Matze Landherr.

Saints then went on to win the Second Division title by a stroke of fate. When Libertas Gully and St. Albans drew 1-1 near the end of the season, they knocked each other out of contention for the title. Going into the last match Libertas had to beat South Yarra by 18 goals to overtake St. Albans — an impossible task.

Saints followed up its championship success in the Armstrong Cup.

St. Albans won the Armstrong Cup by beating Wilhelmina 4-2 in the final at Olympic Park. Goals came from Plebab (2), Klein, and Landherr while Watson scored the two for Wilhelmina.

Olympia became Keilor City after the split with St. Albans. It started in the fourth division and worked its way up into First Division.

The split left St. Albans with a shortage of players for 1966 but an ambitious recruiting programme soon took care of that.

The following players were brought to the club:

- Peter Blom, forward from West Berlin club Reinickendorfer Fuechse, top scorer in the Berlin league in 1964.

- Levente David, Romanian-born half back who had played State League soccer for five years with Lions and Slavia Prague.

- Stefan Pest, forward from Richmond.
- Johann Hermann, inside forward from Austria.
- Alfred Kleintner, brilliant half-back from State League club Lions.

- Franz Marth and Joe Marti defenders from Lions.
- Goalscorer Peter Ramjak and half back Pino Djukic from Croatia.

- Fred Laslett, goalkeeper from Hollandia Brisbania who had played for Crystal Palace in England.
- Ernie Breitwieser forward from Sunshine City.

- Guenter Welland from Richmond.
- Klaus Winkler from Lions.

- Wolfgang Glich from St. Albans.
- Joseph Kalkbrenner from Croatia.

During the league championship, it twice beat Makedonia but in the end, it was Makedonia that won the championship on goal average.

Having won promotion to the State League, Makedonia came straight back down again in the end of the 1967 season while St. Albans was beaten in the promotion race by Wilhelmina.

After the 1967 season, St. Albans started a downward slide. It finished fifth in 1969, the year Alexander was once again promoted, and was relegated to Second Division in 1970.

Saints started the 1970 season with the following players: Joe Abonyi, Joe Biewer, Mane Bijača, Ernő Bereitwieser, Tony Bulka, Lou Denys, Pino Djukic, Spiro Fragogoulos, Guenter Hermann, Con Ignatidis, Matze Landherr, George Minguy, Karla Madzi, Franz Marth, Joe Marth, Mike Misic, Alastair McLeod, Brian Ryerson, Phil Webber, Paul Stanley, Klaus Winkler, and Alfred Maurek.

Saints consolidated in 1971 when Ajax won the Second Division championship with 39 points, from Mooroolbark 32, Coburg 31, Western Suburbs 28, Albion Rovers 26, Moreland 21, St. Albans 20, Richmond 19.

Saints consolidated in 1971 when Ajax won the Second Division championship with 39 points, from Mooroolbark 32, Coburg 31, Western Suburbs 28, Albion Rovers 26, Moreland 21, St. Albans 20, Richmond 19.

Making a bold bid for State League!

Hercules 18, Waverley 16, Sandringham 8 and Brighton 6.

The following year, 1972 Saints were promoted back to the First Division by finishing second.

It was St. Albans' turn to finish last in 1977 the year Albion Rovers won the State championship with 35 points.

Saints' record was one win, two draws, 19 losses, 16 goals for, 80 goals against, four points.

St. Albans finished eighth in Second Division in 1978, and 25th anniversary celebrations turned a bit sour the following year, 1979, when the club was relegated to Third Division.

The club stayed in Third Division in 1980 and finished third in 1981, the year Dinamo merged with it. At the end of that season, the VSF leagues were re-organised and St. Albans were pushed up into Second Division, finishing fifth last year.

This year the club started out with big ambitions which were realised by winning the championship.

Billy Vojtek was hired as player-coach and he proceeded to reshape the first team squad, signing a skin-deep player.

John Bruno, an immensely talented youngster, was signed on a free transfer from Ajax. Ned Batinovic, a proven goalscorer, joined from Melbourne Croatia for \$3,500, as did Danny Dezic, for \$1,500. Goalkeeper Danny Laco joined from Albion Rovers for \$800.

Edy Brezak was signed on a free from Melbourne Croatia and experienced Ted Rachwalski was signed on a free from Polonia.

Danny Dezic's father, Vlado, joined as team manager and player-coach. Vojtek had full regard for the understanding he developed throughout the season with his team manager.

Vojtek is confident that if included in the 1984 State League, St. Albans Dinamo would acquitted itself in style. He reckons that he would need just four top flight additions to his first team squad.

"We would do very, very well in State League. Far better than some people think. We've had a terrific season and all the lads have performed very creditably. I'm very proud of them and I'm proud of the development of the club. I think that we have a really big future awaiting us," said Vojtek.

Vojtek a living legend



For many years, Vojtek was one of the backbones of Croatia in Melbourne, and figure prominently in the club's State League championship wins in 1965 and 1978.

When Croatia was expelled from the VSF in 1972, Vojtek switched to Sydney Croatia but returned to Melbourne, to join Juventus, in 1975, capping an outstanding season by winning the Bill Fleming Medal as the Victorian Player of the Year.

He transferred to Essendon Croatia in 1977 and in 1979, was appointed coach of Green Gully Ajax, leading that club to its first ever State League honor — the 1979 Ampol Cup.

In 1981 and 1982 Vojtek was player-coach of Western Suburbs in First Division and joined Dinamo this year, going on to win his first championship as a coach and his third as a player.

Speed and tremendous close ball control have long been Vojtek's hallmarks. He's 40 now and still a talented player and can look back on great memories when his ability thrilled thousands of spectators in many different countries.

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SIGUR LASHES OUT

Melbourne Croatia president Joe Sigur launched a verbal barrage at Green Gully Ajax and its treasurer Arnold Langer this week.

"I'm sick of all this talk coming from the Green Gully camp that they've won this and won that. Green Gully has a long, long way to go to win as many State League trophies as Croatia," said Sigur.

"Maybe they'll get a chance next year to catch up to our haul of State League trophies while Croatia is in the National League."

"As for this Mr. Langer saying that the State League Cup final was just a charity game, what a thing for a VSF board of management member to say. He shouldn't be on the board if he slams competitions organised by the board."



Box Hill. Back row: Keith Webster (assistant coach), Ray Tolmie, Donovan Lawler, John McKinlay, John Scholten, Donald Brownlie, Paul Priestley, Ian Roodhouse, Bill Murray (coach). Front row: Alan Roodhouse, Pedro Ramos, Matt McDonald, David Azzopardi, Andy Hughes, Peter Verechia, Richard Miranda.

Miranda sends Box Hill into the final

BOX HILL 1 (Miranda 109th) RINGWOOD WILHELMINA 0 after extra time, score at full time 0-0. Dockerty Cup semi-final. First game of a double header at Olympic Park, Sunday. Crowd: about 2,500. Referee: Dale 8.

BOX HILL McKinlay 8, I. Roodhouse 7, Brownlie 7, Lawler 1, A. Roodhouse 7, Pedro Ramos (inf.), Azzopardi 6, Hughes 7, Tolmie 6 (Miranda 5th), McDonald 6, Verechia 7, Priestley 7. Coach: Bill Murray.

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA Lee 7, Brooks 6 (Nyphor 50th), Tj. Mays 7 (inf.), Verniers 6, 51, Haupt 7 - Bakker 7, Burton 7, Gibson 8 - Thom 6, Garvey 7, Stewart 7. Coach: Rudi van Altena.

A goal in the last minute of extra time from midfielder Richard Miranda took Box Hill into the Dockerty Cup final for the first time in history.

Miranda had been injured during the Hillmen's quarter-final win over Fawkner and although fit for this clash, Box Hill coach Bill Murray found it hard to change the team which had won so convincingly against Fawkner. So Miranda started off on the bench but came on as a replacement for Ray Tolmie in the 59th minute and the former Preston Madeleonia player became the hero of the Wembley Park faithful, just a minute away from the expected penalty shoot-out.

Indeed, Ringwood's Hillmen deserved to have at least five decisions on penalties. It had proven more than a match for Box Hill in every department and must count itself desperately unlucky to finally go under.

The goal that settled this came from a Donovan Lawler shot from the edge of the Wilhelmina area. The ball was deflected from a defender into the path of Miranda, six metres out, and he calmly stroked it wide of helplessness.

Box Hill strikers Peter Verechia and Paul Priestley often found themselves without support after the ball had been played long to them. It seems that Box Hill midfielders find it far easier to get forward on the smaller Wembley Park than they do on the more expansive Olympic

Park. However, Box Hill midfielder Matt McDonald had a superb match. He was my pick as the outstanding player afield in this role. There's not much of this little Scotman but what there is all heart. And skill.

Box Hill goalkeeper John McKinlay had very little to do in the first 30 minutes.

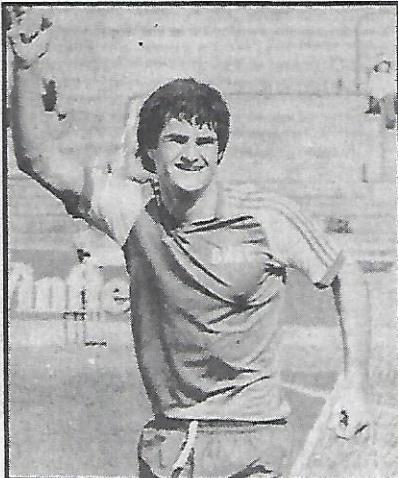
Hillmen's one chance in this period fell in the 27th minute but Ray Tolmie missed a great chance to score. Verechia played the ball to Andy Hughes who went past the last defender but found himself on a tight angle on the right. Hughes played the ball back across goal and Tolmie should have shot first time from the far post. The Box Hill midfielder elected to dummy the shot, then cut inside but a defender was able to clear.

Five minutes later Wilhelmina should have taken the lead. Dave Gibson lobbed Donald Brooks inside Wilhelmina's attacking third, got forward to the edge of the Box Hill area then neatly slipped the ball wide to Neil Garvey on the right. McKinlay had read the situation well however. The Hillmen's keeper charged off his line and spread himself, blocking Garvey's low shot. The ball rebounded off McKinlay to Brian Thom, who volleyed over from 15 metres.

Verechia went within centimetres of breaking the deadlock in the 33rd minute. He got clear on the left of the Wilhelmina area and chipped over Lee only to watch in dismay as the ball went just over the bar and struck the back stanchion.

Garvey's long high lob into the Box Hill area was headed firmly by Kenny Stewart at the far post but straight at McKinlay in the 39th minute.

The second half wasn't even a minute old when Guy Bakker hit the upright. He had found room on the left and drove in a shot. The ball struck the far post and was cleared.



Box Hill midfielder Richard Miranda salutes the crowd after scoring the winner against Wilhelmina.

Bakker had another chance eight minutes later but struck his shot from the edge of the area wide of the near post. This chance had come after Garvey displayed his fine close control under pressure.

Wilhelmina had re-organised at half-time. Hans Meyer had gone off injured and Ron Verniers came on. David Brooks switched from right back to stopper, Graham Haupt went from left back to right back and Verniers took over at left back. When Eddie Pena was replaced by John Nyhoff in the 60th minute, Gibson switched from out-of-midfield to the sweeper's position.

It was Gibson who inadvertently had a hand in the next good chance of the game. That was in the 67th minute. A long ball downfield was won in the air by Verechia. He was trying to head to Priestley but headed against Gibson instead. The rebound though, fell kindly for Verechia but his low shot past Lee was just wide of the far post.

I'm prepared to stand corrected but I thought that Verechia was just inside the 80th minute when he ran onto a great McDonald through ball and lobbed off Lee. The goal was chalked off as Verechia was judged to be the linesman to be offside.

When experienced Wilhelmina defender David Brooks gave the ball away inside his own area in the 76th minute of extra time it looked like the game was over. Luckily for Brooks, young David Azzopardi

DOCKERTY CUP SEMI-FINALS WITH CRAIG MACKENZIE

Gojevic, Brogan strike and it's bye, bye Ajax

MELBOURNE CROATIA 2 (Gojevic 14th, Brogan 70th)
GREEN GULLY AJAX 0. Dockerty Cup semi-final. Second game of a double header at Olympic Park, Sunday. Crowd: about 2,500. Referee: Maumont 2.

MELBOURNE CROATIA Blasby 9 - Curicic 8, Parton 7, Adams 9, Hannah 7 - Blasby 7 (inf.), Letif 7, Othlin Antolovic 7, Faulkner 8, Gojevic 7 - Cummings 8 (Blasby 86th), Brogan 8. Coach: Tommy Cumming.

GREEN GULLY AJAX Denys 7 - Peter Lewis 6, Cannell 7, Short 7, Hobgen 6 (inf., Krizanic 76th) - Vassallo 6 (inf., Greenhill 70th), Burton 7, Williams 6 - Toal 5, Smallman 5, Paul Lewis 5. Coach: David Smiljan.

Two things were decided in this match - Melbourne Croatia is a red hot favorite to win the Dockerty Cup and referee Maumont is at even shorter odds not to be in charge of the final.

Croatia didn't demolish Ajax with the ease of its State League Cup triumph but referee Maumont turned in the most outstanding display of expert refereeing I've seen this season.

His performance climaxed in the final 10 minutes. Jozo Antolovic flattened Steve Short who jumped up, grabbed Antolovic by the neck and threw the Croatian midfielder to the ground. Antolovic was soon on his feet, walking away unpunished.

But let's talk about Croatia's new-found dominance over arch rival Ajax. While Croatia hasn't been brilliant here as it was in the State League Cup final, Ajax again looked lethargic and bereft of ideas up front. That's staggering when you consider that Paul Lewis and David Smallman scored 49 of Ajax's 67 goals in State League this season.

Lewis, as was in the State League Cup final, was well shackled by Croatia's Tony Curicic and Smallman, while doing well with a couple of free kicks, was rarely sighted. Ajax's wide player up front, Bobby Toal, fared no better.

His performance was as ever. On the few occasions when Toal got forward with the ball, Hannah jockeyed well, holding Toal up and waiting for cover. As a consequence, Toal often found himself surrounded by red-shirted opponents and when he resorted to hopeful crosses, Croatian centre half Sean Parton or goalkeeper Peter Blasby were unbeatable.

Blasby was very sound in the air here. He's not happy with the way a couple of other goalkeepers in this competition have gone into print saying that they should be in the state squad and have won selection. Blasby reckons that he's every bit as good, if not better than any keeper in Victoria and he wants a chance to prove himself in the state team. But he doesn't really fancy pushing his own barrow, so let me do it for him. He's a very good goalkeeper.

Croatia looked sharper from the outset. It should have scored in the 5th minute. Josip Biskic, in his now usual taunting and testing fashion, made a great run from the half way line then played the ball to Tommy Cummings, wide on the right. Cummings' cross was miskicked by a defender, David Brogan tried to shoot on the turn, and the ball was deflected to Steve Gojevic who blasted over from 12 metres.

Gojevic turned and volleyed in spectacular fashion in the 13th minute but his ball dipped just over the bar. A minute later, Croatia struck. And what a gem of a goal it was.



Croatia winger Josip Biskic (left) about to surge clear of Ajax's David Hobgen on Sunday. Pictures by LES SHORROCK.

Gojevic again got possession just outside the Ajax area. We all expected another well struck drive but the youngster cleverly lobbed the ball over the defence to Cummings, on the right of the area, who was lunging to head the ball high and long to the far post. Lou Denys was forced to quickly backpedal to his right but he couldn't make position in time.

Brogan could have gone for goal but intelligently headed the ball across the goalmouth to unmarked Gojevic, about six metres out. This brilliant teenager controlled, turned, and smacked the ball in with Ajax defenders out of position. Blasby made one of two superb saves in this match. In the 22nd minute, Paul Lewis laid the ball off to Jim Williams who charged forward into space on the left. Williams sent through a great pass in front of Lewis allowing the Ajax striker to use his remarkable pace. Blasby charged out of goal to the edge of his area but was never going to beat Lewis to the ball. However, using every inch of his long frame, Blasby spread himself and smothered Lewis' shot.

Jozef Antolovic, who played two great lofted balls in this game, bent into his path of Biskic as the next pass in the 25th minute and although he headed firmly from Biskic's corner, he directed the ball right into Denys' hands.

Paul Lewis should have equalised five minutes from half time. After arms and legs swung wildly in a shoving match inside the Croatia area, the ball fell to Lewis but amazingly, he shot wide from just four metres out!

Ten minutes into the second half, Blasby made another great save. Smallman, low free-kick, was destined for the corner but until Blasby threw himself at full stretch and tipped just wide.

Three minutes later, a pinpoint Biskic cross to the near post found Brogan unmarked but he mistimed his header and the ball flashed well wide.

Cumming turned sharply on the left of the Ajax area in the 60th minute and laid the ball

Geo. Cross
defends
its title

Sunshine-George Cross will defend the Djerwarrh Shield on Saturday, when the club runs an on-side competition kicks off at 10am at MacPherson Park, Coburg Road, Melton.

Eight teams will contest the Shield and they will be split into two groups. Group A teams are: Sunshine-George Cross, Albion Rovers, Altona City and East Brunswick. Group B teams are: Mossil Rangers, Kyneton, Melton and All Star Select.

The first part of the competition will be a round-robin format to decide the four semi-finalists. Games will be 20 minutes each and in the event of a tie, a corner count will decide. In the event of a tie in the semi-finals, a shoot-out will be used to decide the finalists.

A penalty contest, at about 3pm will be one of the highlights of the day. It will include some of the biggest names in Victorian soccer, including David Smallman, Paul and Peter Lewis, Bobby Toal (all from Ajax) and Tommy Cummings (Melbourne Croatia).

The Shield final is scheduled for 4.30 pm.

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WELL, AMIGOS MIOS, MAYBE NEXT TIME WE'LL SHOW YOU THE MATCH, TOO ...

THE ANDREW DETTRE COLUMN

Hello and welcome again. And a cheery buenas tardes to our amigos from Argentina as this weeek's match we are about to show you comes from the land of pampas, peons, pesas and Perons.

The two protagonists — this, of course, means tereemans — are ancient rivals River Plate and Boca Juniors whose countless clashes over the years — actually, precisely 345, please check it out — have aroused more passion and more histrionics among the fans than two world wars, fifteen military takeovers and all the activities of the now defunct Monteneros.

Both clubs are well known and need little introduction to the true aficionados of the game but I do it anyway.

River was founded in 1901 and this is needed: in a small teacoom in the suburb of Brown by a bunch of British residents led by captain Mr. James Bunting who's second cousin later migrated to Tasmania and whose family now run a flourishing signwriting business in Launceston. Over the years River has won more Argentine league championships than any other club and has bred some of the greats of the country, among them the forward line of Munoz, Moreno, Pedernera, Labruna and Loustau who operated under the nickname of "la maquina" which means machine in Spanish.

Boca Juniors were not, as you'd expect in turn, founded in the suburb of River Plate mainly because there is no such suburb in Buenos Aires but were also established in the "Barrio" of Boca which used to be mainly inhabited by Italian immigrants. They too, have won just about every major Argentine football title. One of their greatest was built by former Brazilian manager Vicente Feola in the 1960s and then went on to win several titles — three in number — under Hélio D'Amico and Adelio Pedernera who died only this month.

River goes into this match tonight — actually, played seven months, two weeks and four days ago — with a depleted team. Famous midfielder Juan Hesus de la Santa Rosa was injured in the previous match against Estudiantes de la Plata which River managed to win 2-1 and will be replaced by Jesus Juan de la Rosanita, a useful little man who was signed from Ferrocarril 14 months ago in an exchange for two players, two truckloads of inflated pesos, two milking cows and a copy of the Sydney TV program.

Apart from that, River is at full strength and is hopeful that it can stretch its winning sequence to an amazing 32 matches, briefly interrupted by 17 defeats and 18 draws.

Now, what about Boca whose famous stadium, the Estadio Bonanova, has become a household word in South America and also at North Sydney?

It goes into this match with the same line-up it had a few weeks earlier in the Campeonato Metropolitano against Chacarita Juniors with only seven changes in the team: out go Lopez, Montez, Horbez, Gomez, Frivolez, Confuzo and Ez which may weaken the side somewhat.

You will have noted, no doubt, that Arturo Garcia Frivolez is the same player who once played for San Lorenzo di Almagro, then switched to Huracan where he scored an amazing four goals in 92 matches before being transferred to Los Locos de Peru and then, finally, to Boca. But, of course, he's not playing.

Now the referee for today's exciting match is Senyor Eduardo Ortega Casset de la Herra Maris from the provincial city of Medellin, famous for its sprawling beaches, dried octopus soup, ladies knitwear and Casinos. Senyor Ortega etc. has referred 345 junior and 237 senior matches so far in his career, is married, reasonably happily, works as a seal trainer, a zoo and his favorite TV show is Sons and Daughters.

So now we're ready to roll, River will kick from left right, playing in white and Boca from right to left, not wearing white at all.

But what? Really? Well, fancy that. Ladies and gentlemen, amigos de futebol. I'm sorry, the producer has just informed me that the half hour allocated for this match has expired, so we will have to show it to you another time. How time flies. Still, I hope you enjoyed this little introduction which, in any case, was more illuminating than most Argentine matches.

See you next week, until then, goodbye and hasta la vista and all that.

Border boys bid for Vic. leagues

Border soccer club is making a determined bid for inclusion in the Victorian Leagues next year.

International Marketers and Promoters Pty Ltd, recently accepted marketing responsibilities for Border which has negotiated a major sponsorship deal with the successful Attack Sports Company, based in Albury-Wodonga.

Border originally was founded to represent the enormous potential of young local players and to have a regional representation in the major leagues. If it wins a place in the Victorian Leagues next year, will have achieved the first goal of a five year plan which the club hopes will take it into the National League.

Player-coach Steve Atkins, a former full time professional with English club Crystal Palace, came to Australia over 10 years ago and played with Ringwood Wilhelmina, Moorabool and Knox City.

At present, Border plays in the Canberra League and finished third this season. Apart from Atkins, another notable member of the playing staff is former Newcastle KB star, Neil Endacott.

Border's facilities will be boosted by new clubrooms, valued at about \$400,000, and the club has been granted a licence for next season to cover poker machines, food and alcohol.



Marius Tresor

Tresor — a French treasure

France's 1 - 1 draw with Spain in Paris on October 5 was, by all accounts, a poor game but it did produce a noteworthy landmark as Marius Tresor made his 64th international appearance, thereby eclipsing Roger Marche's previous record of French caps.

Tresor, who hails from the French Territory of Guadeloupe in the Caribbean, first came to prominence with the excellent Olympique Marseille who operated as a sweepstakes footballer of the Year".

He was to be a familiar figure to Frenchmen throughout the decade yet had to wait until 1978 before gaining a truly worldwide reputation.

Despite being no more than 70% fit, Tresor impressed all in the role of sweeper during the World Cup finals in Argentina when the Gauls were so unlucky to be eliminated by the host nation and Italy.

Injuries plagued him for the next three seasons, his problems compounded by Olympique Marseilles' remarkable decline.

From its zenith in 1972, Olympique deteriorated rapidly, with a 1976 French Cup triumph merely proving an illusion of continued success.

By 1980, the club not only had fallen into Division Two, but its finances were in an abysmal state. Only the intervention of the local council saved it from bankruptcy.

Even the sale of Tresor did not help the situation to any great extent. Tresor was regarded by most clubs as being too injury-prone, and, at 28, too great a risk.

Only one club, Girondins de Bordeaux, displayed any interest and so it gained his signature for a modest sum.

Ironically, Tresor subsequently has displayed the best sustained form of his career.

He, the diminutive, creative midfielder Alain Giresse, elusive winger Gerald Soler and that immaculate distributor of a ball, Jean Tigana, have transformed Girondins into one of the top training teams in France — something Europe — though it has had to be content with merely verbal and written accolades.

The Bordeaux foursome also provided magnificent entertainment value when playing for France in the 1982 World Cup.

Once more, Tresor's strength, composure and authority gained universal acclaim and his superbly executed goal against West Germany will be remembered just as long as that semi-final's crucial clash.

The World Cup may have ultimately brought frustration to the Frenchmen, but it did confirm that Tresor has few peers as a defender or, rarely, a skipper.

Recently, the highly respected Eric Watt of London's "World Soccer" magazine named him in his World XI for the second successive year.

Marius Tresor's career may be drawing towards an end, but the amiable, ever approachable, West Indian can be content that his ability has gained the recognition it deserves.

— PAUL MOON

LITTLE DENMARK IS THE NEW HOLLAND

By PAUL MOON

Denmark's recent 1 - 0 victory over England at Wembley, a result which made Denmark odds-on favorite to qualify for the last eight of the European Championship, would have surprised only the most short-sighted Englishman, for the Danes have evolved into the most formidable of opponents.

With Italy eliminated and the other World Cup finalist, West Germany, going through a distinctly sticky patch, there is justifiable optimism in Odense, Aarhus, Aalborg and Copenhagen that their boys even could win the trophy in France next year.

Denmark has a long tradition of producing fine players. The Middlebrooks brothers had few peers at the beginning of the century. Carl Hensen spent three distinguished years in Glasgow Rangers' goal during the 1920s. Pat Petersen was right back for FIAF against Britain in 1947 and three seasons later John Hansen won the first of his two Italian championship medals with Juventus.

In 1955 Lethal Sorenson starred on the Rest of Europe's right wing as it beat Britain 4 - 1 and Harald Nielsen's goals lifted Bologna to the 1964 Italian League title.

But, lack of depth has prevented Denmark from making a sustained impact. Today, though, Denmark fields a team which oozes quality throughout.

Having struck a seam of rich talent, the north European kingdom may well emulate Holland, which, despite a previously mediocre international record, came through to shock the soccer world during the last decade.

To date Denmark's influence on the international scene has been confined almost exclusively to the Olympic Games, in which it gained silver medals in 1948, 1952 and 1960.

This fine record can be explained partially by the fact that Danish soccer was exclusively amateur until 1978 and even today its national league, sponsored by major brewers, Carlsberg, is only semi-professional and merely acts as a springboard for ambitious player who look towards Italy, France, Belgium, Spain and Holland in order to further their careers.

It was Italian national team manager Enzo Bearzot who first warned of Denmark's potential in 1980, when his team was beaten 3 - 1 in a World Cup qualifying

inns.

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game, describing the Danes as "potential world beaters".

That potential appears to be well on the way to being realised.

The men who put the nation on the map are:

OLE KJAER (Esbjerg): A 29-year-old skipper. Although he made his 23 caps in his credit, he has since moved to the national side. A brilliant last-second save foiled Luther Blissett at Wembley and made Kjaer a national hero.

TROE RASMUSSEN (Aarhus): A somewhat controversial choice as Kjaer's cover over more experienced and generally higher-rated 'keepers. A graduate from the under-21 and Olympic selections, he has gained 4 full caps 22 years of age.

SOREN BUSK (La Gomera): A 30-year-old skipper. He joined the Spanish club with Gleasons before moving to MVV Maastricht in Holland and transferred to the Belgian club last year. Has made 23 full international appearances.

OLE MADSEN (Brondby): Moved to his current club from Esbjerg last year in order to consider the guidance of coach Pihl-Hansen. A solid back-four player, the 26-year-old has 17 caps.

JAN MOLBY (Ajax Amsterdam): After making a name for himself in his native country, this 20-year-old joined Ajax in 1982. Utilised either as a sweeper or midfield, he has four full caps. A player for the future.

IVAN NIELSEN (Feyenoord): An excellent central defender or libero, he moved to Rotterdam in 1981 and has 22 caps. A solid back-four player, he has 17 caps.

MARTEN OLSEN (Anderlecht): The captain and, at 34, the oldest squad member. Now playing as sweeper, has spent many seasons in midfield. Originally with B1901, he advanced his career in Belgium — playing for RW Molenbeek, Club Brugge and Anderlecht in 1981. Has been capped 56 times.

OLE RASMUSSEN (Hertha Berlin): A tough-tackling, world-class right back, who has played in the Bundesliga Division One since 1981. His previous club was 1. FC Kaiserslautern.

FRANK ARNESEN (Anderlecht): Now back to his merciful best in midfield, after a knee injury sidelined him for the entire 1982-83 campaign. A solid back-four player, he moved to Hertha Berlin in 1981, where he has been capped 26 times.

KLAUS BERGREN (Pisa): Moved to Italy in 1982 from Lyngby, where he had played in three different divisions of the Danish League. A linkman who distributes the ball superbly. Aged 25, 12 caps.

JENS JØRN BERTELSEN (Sønderborg): This experienced midfield player is now in the newly-promoted club consolidating his position in the Belgian First Division. A skilled performer, he has represented Denmark 36 times. Aged 31.

JOHN LAURIDESSEN (Spaniard): An elusive midfielder, this 24-year-old was rated among the

Spanish League's best performers last season — his debut campaign. A bargain buy from Esbjerg, he will be looking for more opportunities in his representative notched up in 24 hours by a storm.

SØREN LERBY (Bayern Munich): A world-class player anywhere on the left side of the pitch, he is a strong-tackling, hard-running player who has been a valuable addition to the German national team.

PREBEN ELJKJAER-LARSEN (Lokken): A pacy winger and consistent scorer, he has netted 18 goals in 30 games for Denmark. The 26-year-old Danish club includes Vanløse (Denmark) and 1. FC Köln (West Germany). Has played a major role in making Lokken a power in Belgian soccer.

MICHAEL LAUDRUP (Juventus): Should Denmark become the Holland of the eighties, as many predict, then surely this superbly gifted forward will develop into the Cruyff of the eighties. He has been capped 22 times in 1982.

DENNIS OLESEN (Benfica): Moved to Portugal this summer from Hvidovre. Prior to the Wembley game he had been only a member of Denmark's Olympic squad; aged 24, his best years obviously lie ahead.

JESPER OLSEN (Ajax Amsterdam): Another supremely gifted Dane, who can play with equal effect in midfield or the forward line. Pacy and direct, he is a key player in his national team and scored the crucial last-minute equaliser against England in Copenhagen last year. He has been sidelined by a ankle ligament injury for much of this season. A 12-times capped 22-year-old.

ALLAN SIMONSEN (Vejle): The greatest Dane of them all 1977's European Footballer of the Year, he, ergo, the outstanding winger of the decade. Won numerous titles with Brøndby, Mönchengladbach and Borussia, moving between the two for an \$800,000 transfer fee. With the Spanish club he earned \$350,000 a year. After a stint at Charlton Athletic, he joined Benfica, where he has already shown his worth. A diminutive, but explosive, performer, who is 30 is still world-class. The recent England game marked his 40th cap and 19th goal for Denmark.

SEPP PHONEK (Coach): A competent right back in his native West Germany, he made over 400 appearances for Werder Bremen and won six international caps. Started coaching at Verden, before taking charge of the Danish national team. A diminutive, but explosive, performer, who is 30 is still world-class. The recent England game marked his 40th cap and 19th goal for Denmark.

NORWAY

Norway has only five full-time pros in its national side: Skipper of Norway Halvar Thorsen plays for PSV Eindhoven and scored 22 goals last season, central defender Age Hareide is with Norwegian City, mid-field star Roger Albertsen is with Olympiakos of Greece, striker Arne Larsen (Oakland) plays for Racing Paris while Arne Dokken is also in Paris with Panathinaikos.

COLD THAWS

Soccer links were recently established between USSR and China after a long cold front. Donetsk played three games in and around Peking.

FOREIGNERS

Italy has the greatest number of foreigners in world soccer. At a recent count there were 31 top players from a vast number of countries. And all in the top bracket.

KEEGAN

England skipper Bryan Robson made a last minute appeal to his namesake, Bobby, manager of England, to recall Kevin Keegan, 32, for the European Championship match against Hungary. But Keegan, who had been released after 63 appearances for England, reportedly said he would not again play in an England side managed by Bobby Robson.

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Two years ago Norwich City bought spare Liverpool central defender David Watson for \$200,000. Watson has turned out tops and got an Under 21 cap for England against Hungary. But if Watson takes one step higher and gets a full cap for England, then Norwich have to fork out another \$200,000 to Liverpool.

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NORWAY

CHAMPIONS CUP

Olympiakos Piraeus (Greece) 1 Benfica (Portugal) 0
 Liverpool (England) 0 Athletico Bilbao (Spain) 0
 Dinamo Bucharest (Romania) 3 SV Hamburg (West Germany-Holders) 0
 Bohemians Prague (Czech) 2 Rapid Vienna (Austria) 1
 Raba Eto Gyoer (Hungary) 3 Dinamo Minsk (USSR) 6
 Standard Liege (Belgium) 0 Dundee United (Scotland)
 CSKA Sofia 0 AS Roma (Italy) 1
 Dynamo Berlin (East Germany) 2 Partizan Belgrade (Yugoslavia) 0

CUP WINNERS CUP 2ND RD 1ST LEG

Ujpest Dozsa (Hungary) 3 Cologne (West Germany) 1
 SK Beveren (Belgium) 0 Aberdeen (Scotland-Holders)
 Hammarby (Sweden) 1 Haka Valkeakoski (Finland) 1

SOCER AROUND THE WORLD**Mueller leads German victory over USSR**

Soviet goalkeeper Rudakov saves a point-blank shot from West German winger Kramer in the final in Brussels. West Germany won 3-0.

The marvellous soccer put on by Europe's best soccer nations in the 1970 World Cup in Mexico indicated that the battle for supremacy in the Old World would be intriguing, spectacular and highly competitive.

And when the fourth edition of the European Championships came around, many top teams were more than ready to have a crack at it.

Italy, World Cup finalist and European Champion holder, was determined to hang on to its experienced stars to defend its crown with dignity.

And West Germany, which provided so many thrilling moments in the rarified air in Mexico, was as ambitious as ever while England looked upon these titles as a means of avenging the bad luck which had tormented it in Guadalajara four years ago.

Even Belgium and the USSR, victims of partisan referee rulings in Mexico, were posing a serious threat.

The 32 applicants again were split into four four-team groups, with the winner to go through to the quarter-finals.

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PHILLIP MICALLEF continues his history of the European Championship...

Czechoslovakia, unable to produce another decent team after the retirement of old maestros Masopust, Pluskal and Schroll, failed badly in qualifying Group One.

The Czechs were held to a 1-1 draw in their first beating the Finns 4-0, thus allowing Romania to go through.

In Group Two Hungary came back from a home draw with France to win a tough section which also included Bulgaria.

Group Three easily was won by England, which dropped only one point on its way to the quarter-finals.

USSR and Spain, which met in the second Nations' Cup final, fought out Group Four and the Soviets won again by beating the Spaniards 2-1 to knock them and holding them to a 1-1 draw in Spain.

The last qualifier was West Germany, which went through at the expense of Poland, quickly emerging as the new force of European — and world football.

The quarter-final line-up was the following: England — West Germany; Italy — Belgium; Hungary — Romania and Yugoslavia — USSR.

The draw made sure the final series in Belgium would be contested by two "Western" countries and two "Communist" sides.

West Germany turned on a superb performance to beat a rapidly-declining England 3-1 at Wembley.

With Gudrun Netzer springing excellent balls across the field and ace striker Gerd Mueller netting his usual goalscoring ability in the penalty area, Beckenbauer and Co produced a top-class display which put them in the driving seat for a spot in the semi-finals.

The return in West Berlin the other side of the West German machine was seen as Helmut Schoen played a boring game of containment aimed exclusively to protect its 3-1 win. The result was an uninspiring 0-0 draw.

Italy pounded Belgium's goal insistently in the mud of Miller's San Siro Stadium but goalless draw made two world-class saves to earn his side a 0-0 draw.

In the return in Brussels Belgium came out of its shell and beat Italy 2-1, more convincingly than the score might suggest.

The Soviet Union put one foot into the semi-finals by holding

Shekhtyor Donetsk (USSR) 1 Servette Geneva (Switzerland) 0
 Paris St Germain (France) 2 Juventus (Italy) 2
 Nec Nijmegen (Netherlands) 2 Barcelona (Spain) 3
 Glasgow Rangers (Scotland) 2 Porto (Portugal) 1
 Spartak Varma (Bulgaria) 1 Manchester United (England) 2

UEFA CUP 2ND ROUND 1ST LEG

R.C. Lens (France) 2 Royal Antwerp (Belgium) 2
 Spartak Moscow (USSR) 2 Aston Villa (England) 2
 Sparta Rotterdam (Netherlands) 3 Carl Zeiss Jena (East Germany) 2

Widzew Lodz (Poland) 1 Sparta Prague 0

P.S.V. Eindhoven (Netherlands) 1 Nottingham Forest (England) 2

R.S.C. Anderlecht (Belgium) 2 Banik Ostrava (Czech) 0

Austria Vienna (Austria) 2 Laval (France) 0

Verona (Italy) 2 Sturm Graz (Austria) 2

Honved Budapest (Hungary) 3 Hajduk Split (Yugoslavia) 2

Tottenham (England) 4 Feyenoord (Netherlands) 2

Lokomotiv Leipzig (East Germany) 1 Werder Bremen (West Germany) 0

Watford (England) 1 Levski Sofia 1

Radnicki Nis (Yugoslavia) 4 Inter Bratislava (Czech) 0

P.A.O.K. Salonika (Greece) 0 Bayern Munich (West Germany) 0

Groningen (Netherlands) 2 Inter Milan (Italy) 0

Sporting Lisbon 2 Celtic (Scotland) 0

David Mitchell**scores winner,****Miguel sent off**

David Mitchell's value continued to skyrocket as he scored Glasgow Rangers' winning goal in a 2-1 triumph over Porto of Portugal in an European Cup Winners' Cup match in Glasgow.

Mitchell, formerly of Adelaidia Juventus, joined Rangers from Sydney Hakko a few months ago.

Meanwhile Barcelona, reputedly the world's richest soccer club, one again resorted to strong-arm tactics to get its own way against modest Dutch outfit N.E. Nijmegen which could count itself unlucky to lose this European Cup winners cup 2nd

round first leg match 2-3 after going two goals in front.

Three Spaniards — Victor, Carrasco and Sanchez — were booked as Barcelona tried vainly to keep the Dutch in check.

Nijmegen had managed to get past the body checks and over-the-ball tackles to score twice but Barcelona pulled one back immediately and a wretched piece of ill-luck allowed the Spaniards to pull level.

Miguel then scored the fifth minute but sooner had Mommentz put them further ahead than Miguel reduced the deficit by scoring straight from the re-start.

Disaster struck in the 55th minute as Van Rossum lobbed the ball over his own goalkeeper to make it 2-2.

Miguel then got his marching orders for a particularly bad piece of aggressions on Mommentz but Barcelona defended ferociously and Urbano broke away to score an undeserved third goal for Barcelona in the 70th minute.

The past year has been clouded by periodic outbreaks of violence, one of its most infamous performances coming in the 1982 European Cup winners cup final when it beat the Belgians of Standard Liege.

Liverpool, the 1977, 1978 and 1981 European champion, will be up against it in the second leg of the champions cup in two weeks' time.

Despite enjoying 90 per cent possession, they seldom looked capable of piercing a resolute Bilbao defence, superbly marshalled by Andoni Goikoetxea, and the match ended in a 0-0 draw.

England's other main hope for 1982, European champion, was well placed in the UEFA Cup, having won 2-1 against PSV Eindhoven in Holland.

The most intriguing second-leg tie will be between Feyenoord, European Cup winners in 1970, and England's Tottenham.

Tottenham led 4-0 at half-time in London, but Feyenoord, inspired by Johann Cruyff, pulled two goals back in the second half and will be full of confidence in the return in Rotterdam.

During the 90 minutes Cruyff struck no fewer than 59 (52 last year) passes of which only 13 (11) missed their intended destination. Indeed, one of his most telling touches came when he laid the ball on with his hip for Andre Hoekstra to burst through the Saints defence.

He had five (three) attempts at goal, three (two) missing the target, and wasted just one (one) of the 10 (11) set-pieces he was involved in.

He improved on last year's heading tally (nil) by clearing a corner in the first half. He was also released the ball behind his head when taking one of his five throw-ins.

Johann covered every blade of the turf, and more than once filled in as either sweeper or right-back to allow defenders to move forward and support the attack.

He always had an opinion to offer to either a team-mate or the referee. And, unlike some, he knows what he's talking about!



Johann Cruyff

Cruyff uses his hip

JOHANN CRUYFF may no longer be the Flying Dutchman of 10 years ago. But, boy, he can still play a bit.

Johann proved that this time last year when he orchestrated Ajax's 2-2 draw with Celtic in Glasgow. Recently we again examined his contribution against St Mirren.

Here's a comparison (last season's figures in brackets) which shows that the past 12 months and a change of club have done little to blunt Johann's skills.

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From KB to Gretna

Jim Hamilton, the ex Newcastle KB United midfielder, has joined Gretna which has just won membership of the Dryborough Northern League — traditionally among England's strongest amateur competitions.

Although Gretna lies in Scotland and, earlier in the century, gained fame as the destination of eloping teenage couples, the town's soccer team is affiliated to the English federation.

This must be regarded as another stage in the winding down of the 28-year-old's career. — PAUL MOON

ANGUS TO SOUTHEND

Mike Angus, who was reported to have joined Heidelberg last February, has signed for English Third Division side Southend United. The powerful defender, given a free transfer by Middleborough, completed the latter part of the 1982-83 season at Scunthorpe United, but failed to impress sufficiently to warrant a full time contract. — PAUL MOON.

OCEANIA UNDER 16s

Eight entries have now been confirmed for the inaugural Oceania under 16 tournament which commences in Auckland on December 4. Australia, Chinese Taipei, Fiji, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Solomon Islands, Tahiti and Vanuatu will participate in the week long carnival. — PAUL MOON.

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PERCHE' LA JUVE HA PERSO IL CAMPIONATO

La Juventus di quest'anno, pur mancando di grandi individualità in senso assoluto e costante, come assieme è stata la migliore formazione bianconera vista in azione da molti anni e avrebbe meritato di vincere il campionato statale che in ogni caso è una competizione alquanto limitata poiché, dall'avvento della lega nazionale s'è ridotta ad una contesa fra due squadre (Preston e Croatia prima, Green Gully e Croatia dopo) più la squadra in forma del campionato (Frankston, Croydon e Juventus negli ultimi anni).

Con un campo tanto limitato arrivare terzi, come era successo del resto anche l'anno scorso, è un risultato discreto sulla carta ma in effetti è equivalente ad arrivare ultimi del primo classe, la differenza fra il terzo posto dell'anno scorso e quello di questo anno è che nel primo caso il distacco dalle due squadre di testa era stato più marcato e praticamente la Juventus non era mai stata in lotta per lo scudetto; nel secondo caso il

distacco è stato minimo e la squadra è stata al comando della classifica in zona scudetto all'inizio di questa stagione.

Il terzo posto di quest'anno è stato ancora più meritato poiché il livello della competizione del 1983 è stato indubbiamente superiore, e di molto, a quello del 1982.

Ma giacché siamo in tema di paragoni bisogna anche dire che la Juventus del 1982 era stata ricostituita quasi interamente dalla formazione retrotessera l'anno precedente, mentre la squadra del 1983 era in gran parte riconfermata e quindi migliorata da nuovi elementi di valore come Lloyd, Rogers e Drinoczyk senza contare la definitiva utilizzazione di Zinni e l'arrivo di Cullen a campionato oltre il giro di boa.

Con il maggiore affidamento e con l'aggiunta di buoni elementi, anche ad un livello più elevato della competizione, la Juventus avrebbe dovuto vincere il campionato. Come però premette il terzo posto e' chiaro da considerare un insuccesso non è possibile farsi illusioni.

Ma vediamo in dettagli perché la Juventus avrebbe potuto vincere il campionato e perché, invece, l'ha perso.

All'inizio dell'anno l'amministrazione Juventina aveva finalmente capito che una squadra vincente (più di campo e di cuore che nessuno avrebbe usato) era la base di un ritorno alla gloria. Si cominciò quindi con l'acquisto del meglio allenatore disponibile sul mercato e Margaritis sembra essere l'uomo giusto. Si decise quindi di non trasferire alcun giocatore, ad eccezione di Cunningham che si era trasferito in Tasmania per ragioni di lavoro.

Con una squadra riconfermata si proseguì a rinforzarla, anche se non con eccessiva decisione; infatti il giovane Drinoczyk venne acquistato come alternativa al vecchio Donaldson solo dopo che il quale aveva ben meritato reti in una partita di Ampol Cup. Prima di lui erano arrivati l'esperto Rogers (unica scelta personale dell'allenatore) che avrebbe dovuto essere il regista del centrocampo e il giovane Lloyd come motorino e mezzapunta.

L'intenzione di rinforzare la prima linea rimase solo tale per limitazione di mezzi e anche perché il mercato non offriva molto di meglio rispetto a quanto si poteva avere. D'altra parte French (che era stato ceduto dal Cagliari, Incantalo, Zinni e Nelson più l'appalto di mezzepunte come Ged Bannon, Lloyd e Swinscoe) erano ai diri poco sufficienti per passare qualsiasi difesa avversaria almeno tante volte necessarie per vincere, anche se nessuno si aspettava risultati tennis.

La Juventus appariva perciò squadra affilata, bilanciata e con sufficienti rincalzi per affrontare un lungo campionato (alle prime battute erano in panchina gente come Ged Bannon, Tony Heery, Ti-

VIVA ITALIA! with ROCKY DI ZIO

Ziano Cavallari, Jim Nelson, Frank Geremia, Alec Fantoma).

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Anche se comitato, tecnici e tifosi non ci credevano ancora, non addossarono responsabilità alla Juventus come squadra da campionato. Infatti, a parte il vero e proprio infortunio contro il Polonia, la Juventus continuò a macinare risultati positivi e, dopo aver battuto Croatia e Green Gully in due turni consecutivi, si venne a trovare in cima al campionato e con il vento in poppa.

Ormai tutti si erano convinti che la Juventus possesse vere e proprie qualità, tanto che cominciarono a diventare esperte. All'inizio del campionato erano venuti a mancare Tony Heery e Tiziano Cavallari. Fabio Incantalo era impegnato con la nazionale giovanile e Andrew Zinni era infornato per diverse settimane. La buona rosa di giocatori in cui tanto si era insistito all'inizio dell'anno si era così dissipata e il comitato, nonostante i nostri continui avvertimenti, non corsi ai ripari.

Si arrivarono così alla partita con il Box Hill, nell'undicesimo turno. I bianconeri, prima in classifica, era rimasta con undici giocatori di cui due (Rogers e Swinscoe) infornati ma costretti a scendere in campo ugualmente. Fino a che ressero, la Juventus domino' senza però riuscire a segnare; quando Rogers e Swinscoe crollarono, Lloyd naturalmente il centrocampone e la difesa fu messa sotto pressione e conseguì il rigore fatto che tentò la scorsa e la perduta del primo in classifica.

Facili partite contro un Morellin in crisi ed un modestissimo Albion e due settimane di interruzione del campionato per gli incontri della nazionale con l'Inghilterra, diedero alla Juventus la possibilità di reprendere fiato e di recuperare Zinni e Incantalo, ma non Swinscoe che era stato un punto di forza della squadra nel girone d'andata. Inoltre Incantalo, Zinni e Nelson più l'appalto di mezzepunte come Ged Bannon, Lloyd e Swinscoe erano ai diri poco sufficienti per passare qualsiasi difesa avversaria almeno tante volte necessarie per vincere, anche se nessuno si aspettava risultati tennis.

Così il George Cross condusse per 2-1 a 18 minuti dalla fine e solo una provvidenziale bordata di Fabio (che finalmente Margaritis si era deciso a fare entrare al posto

di Ged Bannon) salvo parzialmente la situazione in zona Cesaroni, un importante punto era stato però perso.

Intanto il comitato aveva rinforzato la squadra, secondo loro, con l'acquisto di Robert Curran, un ottimo giocatore, alcuni dubbi, e sfortunatamente doppione di Zinni o di Incantalo e quindi assolutamente inutilizzabile. Ma come si fa a non utilizzare un campione costato una fortuna?

Fu così che Margaritis cominciò a fare salti mortali per includere Cullen, quando la Juventus, nuovamente quasi al completo, aveva ripreso la sua leva. La settimana dopo a Croydon guidava per 3-0 quando Margaritis tirò fuori un ottimo French per far posto a Cullen. La settimana successiva, contro un coriaceo Fawkner, fu Incantalo ad uscire per far posto al nuovo arrivato, un altro punto perso. Quindi fu il volto nuovo a rimanere fuori dall'inizio della partita con il South Melbourne e poiché nemmeno lui poteva star fuori, fu French (che quel giorno stava giocando una delle sue migliori partite dell'anno ed aveva magistralmente fatto segnare una rete) ad uscire fuori: risultato un altro punto perso. La settimana dopo, contro il non eccezionale Doveton, fu Zinni a rimanere fuori. Contro il Polonia Drinoczyk rimase fuori perché infornato così di facile trovata posto in panchina per tutti. La Juventus a questo punto era a due punti dalle capocannoniere Crotia e Green Gully.

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Anche se comitato, tecnici e tifosi non ci credevano ancora, non addossarono responsabilità alla Juventus come squadra da campionato. Infatti, a parte il vero e proprio infortunio contro il Polonia Drinoczyk rimase fuori perché infornato così di facile trovata posto in panchina per tutti. La Juventus a questo punto era a due punti dalle capocannoniere Crotia e Green Gully.

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NATIONAL SOCCER CUP SEMI-FINAL SOUTH MELBOURNE v HEIDELBERG UNITED



South Melbourne Hellas midfield strongman Carl Halford.

Kick-Off-Time 3.00 pm (Approx)

OLYMPIC PARK
THIS SUNDAY



Charlie Yankos of Heidelberg and Australia — No. 1 defender in the NSL.

SYDNEY

MARCONI v SYDNEY OLYMPIC



Marconi stars Mark Jankovic (left) and Tommy McCulloch (centre).

ST GEORGE STADIUM
3.00 pm
THIS SUNDAY



Peter Katholos (right), the 1982 Australian Player of the Year. He'll be Sydney Olympic's trump card against Marconi.

FINAL DOCKERTY CUP SEMI FINAL NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE CUP

The above mentioned games will be played at Olympic Park No. 1 ground this Sunday in the following sequence:

1st GAME — **HARRY ARMSTRONG (Reserves) CUP FINAL**
Kick-Off 1.40 pm
GREEN GULLY v THOMASTOWN

Presentation of the Weinstein Medal for Junior Soccer Player of the Year CON KIAKOS — South Oakleigh

2nd GAME — **SEMI FINAL — National Soccer League**
Kick-Off 3.00 pm (approx)
HEIDELBERG UNITED v SOUTH MELBOURNE

3rd GAME — **FINAL — DOCKERTY CUP** Kick-Off directly follows 2nd game

Admission \$5
Pensioners \$1
Children under 16 FREE